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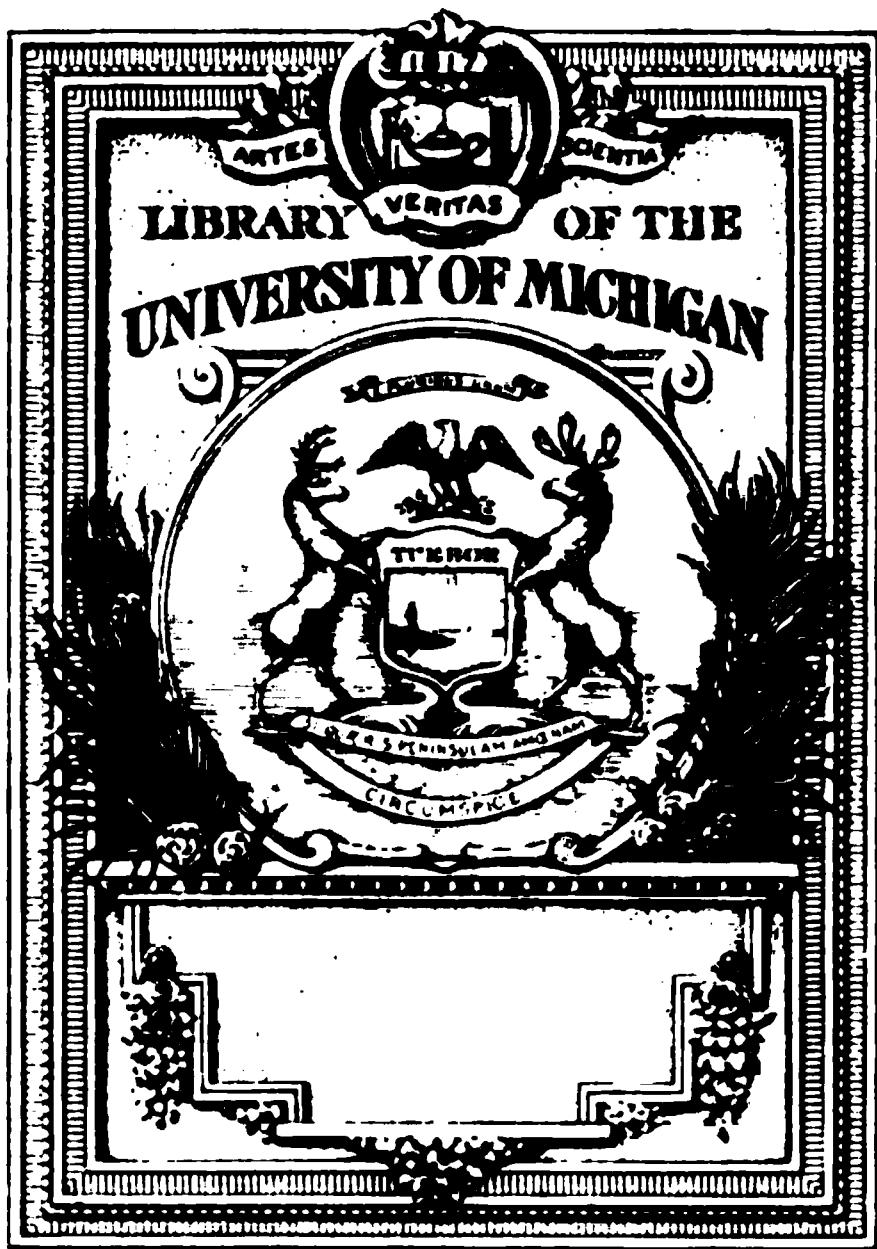
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CENTRAL LIBRARY: THE INTERIOR COURT.



SEVENTIETH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TRUSTEES

OF THE

PUBLIC LIBRARY

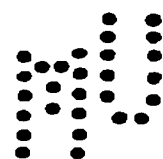
OF THE

CITY OF BOSTON

1921-1922

BOSTON  
PUBLISHED BY THE TRUSTEES  
1922





**THE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON: PRINTING DEPARTMENT.**  
**MP7: 6.23.22: 25C.**

general

**TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**ON FEBRUARY 1, 1922.**

---

**ALEXANDER MANN, *President.***

**Term expires April 30, 1925.**

**ARTHUR T. CONNOLLY. LOUIS E. KIRSTEIN.**

**Term expires April 30, 1922.**

**Term expires April 30, 1924.**

**SAMUEL CARR.**

**Term expires April 30, 1923.**

**MICHAEL J. MURRAY.**

**Term expires April 30, 1926.**

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**LIBRARIAN.**

**CHARLES F. D. BELDEN.**

## ORGANIZATION OF THE LIBRARY DEPARTMENT.

The Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, organized in 1852, are now incorporated under the provisions of Chapter 114, of the Acts of 1878, as amended. The Board for 1852 was a preliminary organization; that for 1853 made the first annual report. At first the Board consisted of one alderman and one common-councilman and five citizens at large, until 1867, when a revised ordinance made it to consist of one alderman, two common-councilmen and six citizens at large, two of whom retired, unless re-elected, each year, while the members from the City Council were elected yearly. In 1878 the organization of the Board was changed to include one alderman, one councilman, and five citizens at large, as before 1867; and in 1885, by the provisions of the amended city charter, the representation of the City Government upon the Board by an alderman and a councilman was abolished, leaving the Board as at present, consisting of five citizens at large, appointed by the Mayor, for five-year terms, the term of one member expiring each year. The following citizens at large have been members of the Board since its organization in 1852:

ABBOTT, SAMUEL APPLETON BROWNE, A.M., 1879-95.  
APPLETON, THOMAS GOLD, A.M., 1852-56.  
BENTON, JOSIAH HENRY, LL.D., 1894-1917.  
BIGELOW, JOHN PRESCOTT, A.M., 1852-68.  
BOWDITCH, HENRY INGERSOLL, M.D., 1865-67.  
BOWDITCH, HENRY PICKERING, M.D., 1894-1902.  
BOYLE, THOMAS FRANCIS, 1902-12.  
BRAMAN, JARVIS DWIGHT, 1869-72.  
BRETT, JOHN ANDREW, LL.B., 1912-16.  
CARR, SAMUEL, 1895-96, 1908-  
CHASE, GEORGE BIGELOW, A.M., 1876-85.  
CLARKE, JAMES FREEMAN, D.D., 1879-88.  
COAKLEY, DANIEL HENRY, 1917-19.  
CONNOLLY, ARTHUR THEODORE, 1916-  
CURTIS, DANIEL SARGENT, A.M., 1873-75.  
DE NORMANDIE, JAMES, D.D., 1895-1908.  
DWIGHT, THOMAS, M.D., 1899-1908.  
EVERETT, EDWARD, LL.D., 1852-64.  
FROTHINGHAM, RICHARD, LL.D., 1875-79.  
GREEN, SAMUEL ABBOTT, M.D., 1868-78.  
GREENOUGH, WILLIAM WHITWELL, 1856-88.  
HAYNES, HENRY WILLIAMSON, A.M., 1880-94.  
HILLARD, GEORGE STILLMAN, LL.D., 1872-75; 76-77.  
KENNEY, WILLIAM FRANCIS, A.M., 1908-1921.  
KIRSTEIN, LOUIS EDWARD, 1919-  
LEWIS, WESTON, 1868-79.  
LEWIS, WINSLOW, M.D., 1867.  
LINCOLN, SOLOMON, A.M., 1897-1907.  
MANN, ALEXANDER, D.D., 1908-

MORTON, ELLIS WESLEY, 1870-73.  
 MURRAY, MICHAEL JOSEPH, LL.B., 1921-  
 PIERCE, PHINEAS, 1888-94.  
 PRINCE, FREDERICK OCTAVIUS, A.M., 1888-99.  
 PUTNAM, GEORGE, D.D., 1868-77.  
 RICHARDS, WILLIAM REUBEN, A.M., 1889-95.  
 SHURTLEFF, NATHANIEL BRADSTREET, LL.D., 1852-68.  
 THOMAS, BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, LL.D., 1877-78.  
 TICKNOR, GEORGE, LL.D., 1852-66.  
 WALKER, FRANCIS AMASA, LL.D., 1896.  
 WHIPPLE, EDWIN PERCY, A.M., 1867-70.  
 WHITMORE, WILLIAM HENRY, A.M., 1885-88.  
 WINSOR, JUSTIN, LL.D., 1867-68.

The HON. EDWARD EVERETT was President of the Board from 1852 to 1864; GEORGE TICKNOR, in 1865; WILLIAM W. GREENOUGH, from 1866 to April, 1888; PROF. HENRY W. HAYNES, from May 7, 1888, to May 12, 1888; SAMUEL A. B. ABBOTT, May 12, 1888, to April 30, 1895; HON. F. O. PRINCE, October 8, 1895, to May 8, 1899; SOLOMON LINCOLN, May 12, 1899, to October 15, 1907; REV. JAMES DE NORMANDIE, January 31, 1908, to May 8, 1908; JOSIAH H. BENTON, May 8, 1908, to February 6, 1917; WILLIAM F. KENNEY, February 13, 1917, to May 7, 1920; REV. ALEXANDER MANN, since May 7, 1920.

## LIBRARIANS.

(From 1858 to 1877, the chief executive officer was entitled Superintendent.)

CAPEN, EDWARD, *Librarian*, May 13, 1852 - December 16, 1874.  
 JEWETT, CHARLES C., *Superintendent*, 1858 - January 9, 1868.  
 WINSOR, JUSTIN, LL.D., *Superintendent*, February 25, 1868 - September 30, 1877.  
 GREEN, SAMUEL A., M.D., *Trustee, Acting Librarian*, October 1, 1877 - September 30, 1878.  
 CHAMBERLAIN, MELLEN, LL.D., *Librarian*, October 1, 1878 - September 30, 1890.  
 DWIGHT, THEODORE F., *Librarian*, April 13, 1892 - April 30, 1894.  
 PUTNAM, HERBERT, LL.D., *Librarian*, February 11, 1895 - April 30, 1899.  
 WHITNEY, JAMES L., A.M., *Acting Librarian*, March 31, 1899 - December 21, 1899; *Librarian*, December 22, 1899 - January 31, 1903.  
 WADLIN, HORACE G., LITT.D., *Librarian*, February 1, 1903 - March 15, 1917; *Acting Librarian*, March 15, 1917 - June 15, 1917.  
 BELDEN, CHARLES F. D., LL.B., *Librarian*, since March 15, 1917.

## LIBRARY SYSTEM, FEBRUARY 1, 1922.

DEPARTMENTS.	OPENED.
†Central Library, Copley Sq. . . . .	May 2, 1854
†East Boston Branch, 276-282 Meridian St. . . . .	Jan. 28, 1871
§South Boston Branch, 372 Broadway . . . . .	May 1, 1872
Roxbury Branch, 46 Millmont St. . . . .	July, 1873
†Charlestown Branch, Monument Sq. . . . .	*Jan., 1874
†Brighton Branch, Academy Hill Rd. . . . .	*Jan., 1874
‡Dorchester Branch, Arcadia, cor. Adams St. . . . .	Jan. 25, 1874
§South End Branch, 397 Shawmut Ave. . . . .	Aug., 1877
†Jamaica Plain Branch, Sedgwick, cor. South St. . . . .	Sept., 1877
‡West Roxbury Branch, Centre, near Mt. Vernon St. . . . .	*Jan. 6, 1880
†West End Branch, Cambridge, cor. Lynde St. . . . .	Feb. 1, 1896
‡Upham's Corner Branch, Columbia Rd., cor. Bird St. . . . .	Mar. 16, 1896
†Hyde Park Branch, Harvard Ave., cor. Winthrop St. . . . .	*Jan. 1, 1912
†North End Branch, 3A North Bennet St. . . . .	Feb. 27, 1913
‡Codman Square Branch, Washington, cor. Norfolk St. . . . .	*Nov. 1, 1914
‡Roslindale Branch, Washington, cor. Ashland St. . . . .	*Sept. 1, 1919
§Warren Street Branch, 392 Warren St. . . . .	*Sept. 1, 1919
§Mount Bowdoin Branch, Washington, cor. Eldon St. . . . .	*Feb. 1, 1922
§Station A. Lower Mills Reading Room, Washington St. . . . .	June 7, 1875
§ " D. Mattapan Reading Room, 7 Babson St. . . . .	Dec. 27, 1881
§ " E. Neponset Reading Room, 362 Neponset Ave. . . . .	Jan. 1, 1883
§ " G. Allston Reading Room, 138 Brighton Ave. . . . .	Mar. 11, 1889
‡ " N. Mt. Pleasant Reading Room, Vine, cor. Dudley St. . . . .	Apr. 29, 1892
‡ " P. Tyler Street Reading Room, Tyler, cor. Oak St. . . . .	Jan. 16, 1896
§ " S. Roxbury Crossing Reading Room, 208 Ruggles St. . . . .	Jan. 18, 1897
§ " T. Boylston Station Reading Room, The Lamartine, De- pot Sq. . . . .	Nov. 1, 1897
§ " Y. Andrew Square Reading Room, 396 Dorchester St. . . . .	Mar. 5, 1914
§ " Z. Orient Heights Reading Room, 1030 Bennington St. . . . .	June 25, 1901
‡ " 23. City Point Reading Room, Municipal Bldg., Broadway . . . . .	July 18, 1906
§ " 24. Parker Hill Reading Room, 1518 Tremont St. . . . .	July 15, 1907
† " 25. Faneuil Reading Room, 100 Brooks St. . . . .	Mar. 4, 1914
§ " 26. Jeffries Point Reading Room, 195 Webster St. . . . .	Oct. 15, 1921

|| In the case of the Central Library and some of the branches and stations the opening was in a different location from that now occupied. \* As a branch. † In building owned by City, and exclusively devoted to library uses. ‡ In City building, in part devoted to other municipal uses. § Occupies rented rooms. || The lessee of the Fellows Athenaeum, a private library association.

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Central Library: The Interior Court . . . . .	Frontispiece
Map of the Library System . . . . .	At the end



TO HIS HONOR, JAMES M. CURLEY,  
*Mayor of the City of Boston.*

SIR: — The Board of Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston presents the following report of its condition and affairs for the year ending January 31, 1922, being the seventieth annual report.

#### ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD.

The annual meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Thursday, June 3, 1921, when the Reverend Alexander Mann, D.D., was elected President, Mr. Samuel Carr, Vice-President, and Miss Della Jean Deery, Clerk. The Honorable Michael J. Murray was appointed a trustee for the term ending April 30, 1926, in place of Mr. William F. Kenney. At the meeting held on June 3, 1921, the following resolution on the retirement of Mr. Kenney was adopted:

On April 30, 1921, Mr. William F. Kenney's term as a Trustee of the Library expired.

Mr. Kenney was first appointed a Trustee on December 30, 1907. He has therefore served the Library continuously for a period of fourteen years.

On May 3, 1912, Mr. Kenney was elected Vice President of the Board, which office he held up to February 13, 1917, when he was elected President of the Board, and served in that capacity until May 7, 1920.

Few trustees of the Library have served the institution longer than Mr. Kenney, and through all these years he has been most faithful in his attendance on the meetings of the Board, and has at all times shown a keen interest in the welfare of the Library.

Resolved: That Mr. Kenney be accorded the freedom of the alcoves, and that this minute be placed upon the records of the Board of Trustees, and that a copy be sent to Mr. Kenney.

#### RECEIPTS OF THE LIBRARY.

The receipts of the Library are of two classes: first, those which are to be expended by the Trustees in the maintenance of



the Library. They consist of the annual appropriation by the Mayor and City Council, and the income from Trust Funds, given to the Trustees but invested by the City Treasurer. During the past year these receipts were

Annual appropriation . . . . .	\$747,120.00
Special appropriation: Jeffries Point . . . . .	4,000.00
Income from Trust Funds . . . . .	23,531.66
Unexpended balance of Trust Funds income of previous years . . . . .	52,201.68
Total . . . . .	<u>\$826,854.14</u>

Second, receipts which are accounted for and paid into the City Treasury for general municipal purposes. These receipts during the year have been as follows:

From fines . . . . .	\$12,073.92
From sales of catalogues, etc. . . . .	56.19
From commissions on telephone stations . . . . .	456.17
From sale of waste paper . . . . .	153.22
From payments for lost books . . . . .	648.45
Interest on bank deposits . . . . .	55.68
Total . . . . .	<u>\$13,452.63</u>

#### BRANCHES AND READING ROOMS.

On April 6, 1921, His Honor the Mayor approved an order of the City Council for an appropriation of \$55,000 to be expended by the Superintendent of Public Buildings for a new Branch Library building in West Roxbury; and on May 13, 1921, the Trustees

VOTED: That the President be requested to inform the Mayor that it is the sense of the Board that under the authority of their Charter of Incorporation and in their administration for the best interest of the Library, appropriations of money for library purposes should be made to the Trustees to be expended by them rather than to other departments of the City.

On June 7, 1921, His Honor the Mayor approved an order of the City Council for a special appropriation of \$4,000 for the establishment of a reading room at Jeffries Point, East Boston. This reading room at 195 Webster Street, East Boston, was opened to public use on the afternoon of October 15, 1921. It is admirably located on a corner facing Belmont Square, the only open space in that section of East Boston in close proximity

to the schools, including the Samuel Adams, the Commodore Barry and the Plummer Grammar Schools, and one parochial school. At the noon recess there are some 4,000 children congregated in this Square. The great bulk of the population is of Italian blood, and the children, as was to be expected, are making large use of the reading room. The Board desires to put on record its appreciation of the public spirited service of the Americanization Committee of the Boston Chamber of Commerce to whom it is largely indebted for a very careful survey of all possible sites for the most suitable location of a reading room in the Jeffries Point district.

In connection with the erection of the new branch library building at West Roxbury and the establishment of the reading room at Jeffries Point the Trustees had the hearty and united support of the citizens of those districts, and to their interest is largely due the prompt realization of both projects.

#### ESTIMATES 1922-1923.

The estimates of the Trustees for the maintenance of the Library for the coming year, forwarded to His Honor the Mayor in budget form as usual, were for \$828,426 of which \$578,602 is for personal service and \$249,824 for general maintenance. The total increase asked for amounts to about  $10\frac{4}{5}$  per cent over the sum allowed for the Department last year.

The Trustees feel so strongly the importance of a large appropriation for the purchase of books and an increased appropriation for personal service in order to allow the appointment of additional assistants where sorely needed to maintain efficiency of the Library service, that in making up the budget they have felt it unwise to allow for any increase in salaries other than those due to grade increases. The Board has come to this conclusion with regret because they still feel the desirability as a matter of justice of increased appropriations in order that chiefs of departments, first assistants, and librarians of branches and reading rooms especially may be paid salaries more adequate for services rendered.

The book appropriation of \$100,000 last year we believe has been wisely expended, and the absorption of the volumes sent

to the branches and reading rooms and placed on the shelves of the Central Library has proven how inadequate the collections of the Library were to meet the popular demand for reading, and to meet especially the needs of children in all sections of the city. The increase in circulation of over 233,000 during the year is a significant indication of the effect of this enlarged appropriation.

The need for more books, however, is just as great. A visit to the branches and reading rooms shows many empty shelves and no trace even of the newer books; they are all in active circulation. Children and adults still come continually to the Central and to the branch libraries asking for books and material which the Library has not been able to buy in sufficient amount to meet the steady and increasing demand. The Library can only grow in usefulness and popularity to the extent that it is able to meet the needs of its constituents. For this reason the Trustees have asked for \$125,000 for books — \$25,000 more than the amount allowed last year — and for the sum of \$22,880 for additional assistants greatly needed throughout the system. If the Library is to keep pace with its enlarged work, no one of the new positions can be omitted without real detriment to direct and indirect service to the public. Indeed, too few new assistants have been asked for in comparison with the number employed in similar departments in other large library systems.

#### OPENING OF THE CENTRAL LIBRARY ON HOLIDAYS.

Heretofore the Central Library building has been closed on all holidays, but, as the result of requests received from time to time and in view of the fact that there are many persons in the city on holidays who desire to visit the building, the Trustees decided to open it for public inspection on all holidays except July the Fourth, Thanksgiving and Christmas. This opening is for inspection, not for service. The Trustees would be glad to open the Library not merely for inspection but also for service if the funds at their disposal warranted the additional expenditure.

#### SARAH E. PRATT BEQUEST.

The Board of Trustees received on January 20, 1922, a check for \$500, being a bequest from Sarah E. Pratt, late of

Boston, for the benefit of the Dorchester Branch. This bequest has been funded as the "Sarah E. Pratt Fund" and the income will be applied to the purchase of books for the Dorchester Branch of the Library.

#### BRANCH FOR BUSINESS MEN.

Among the many needs of the Library system of which the Trustees are conscious, that which they put first, is a Business Men's Branch. The importance of this has been repeatedly called to their attention by the reports of the Examining Committees and also by many business men of Boston. The ideal location for such a branch in the judgment of the Trustees would be in the new Boston Chamber of Commerce building which is soon to be erected. Such a branch would provide the business men of Boston with a library adapted especially to their needs in the heart of the business district. It would be equipped to supply to the business executive every sort of information which he needs, arranged and classified for immediate use. It would be exceptionally strong in the fields of manufacture, commerce, transportation, finance, insurance, industrial relations, and allied activities, and would also contain general reference and "first-aid" collections of both permanent and ephemeral value. The establishment of such a branch is in the judgment of the Trustees the next and most imperative forward step which the Library should take.

#### MR. LINDSAY SWIFT.

The following minute regarding Mr. Lindsay Swift was adopted by the Trustees on Friday, October 14, 1921:

Lindsay Swift, an employee of the Public Library of the City of Boston for 43 years, 3 months and 15 days, died suddenly in Cambridge on September 11, 1921. Mr. Swift entered the service of the Library in the Catalogue Department on May 27, 1878. On February 7, 1896, he became Editor of Library Publications, which position he held at the time of his death. Under his direction and through his fine literary taste and judgment the publications of the Boston Public Library achieved an enviable position in the library world. Always a gentleman, combining the outlook and taste of a scholar with a keen sense of humor, sympathy and candor outspoken, he endeared himself to his associates. The Board of Trustees gratefully place on record their appreciation of his long, faithful and efficient service.

# **PORTRAIT OF JOSIAH H. BENTON.**

For twenty-three years Mr. Benton served as a Trustee of the Library during nine years of which he was President of the Board. His interest in the Library and his estimate of the value of its public service was made plain by the great bequest which he made to it, the second largest gift to the City in its history. Ever since Mr. Benton died, in February, 1917, the Trustees have desired to recognize his eminent service and his great gift by placing on the walls of the Library a suitable portrait of him. The Art Commission of the City is in sympathy with this desire. All that is necessary for the carrying out of this purpose is a suitable appropriation.

## **TABLE OF TRUST FUNDS.**

A detailed statement of these funds, and the income therefrom, is contained in the report of the City Auditor, but a condensed statement of them is as follows:

<b>FUND.</b>	<b>AMOUNT.</b>	<b>RESTRICTIONS OF GIFT.</b>
Artz . . .	\$ 10,000.00	For the purchase of valuable and rare editions of the writings, either in verse or prose, of American and of foreign authors, "to be known as the Longfellow Memorial Collection."
Bates . . .	50,000.00	To buy "books of permanent value."
Bigelow . . .	1,000.00	Purchase of books.
Billings . . .	100,000.00	For the purchase of books.
Bowditch . . .	10,000.00	For "the purchase of books of permanent value and authority in mathematics and astronomy," to be added to the Bowditch Collection.
Bradlee . . .	1,000.00	Unrestricted.
Center . . .	39,543.14	Unrestricted.
"Children's" (under Benton Will) .	100,000.00	For the purchase of books for the use of the young. Available only in years when the City appropriates for the maintenance of the Library at least 3% of the amount available for department expenses from taxes and income in said City.
Clement . . .	2,000.00	For the purchase of books.
Codman . . .	2,854.41	For the purchase of books upon landscape gardening.
Cutter . . .	4,100.00	For the purchase of books and for binding for the Abram E. Cutter Collection.
"Elizabeth" (under Matchett Will) .	25,000.00	For the purchase of books of "permanent value and authority."
Carried forward	<u>\$345,497.55</u>	

<i>Brought forward</i>	\$345,497.55	
Ford . . .	6,000.00	Unrestricted.
Franklin Club . .	1,000.00	Books of permanent value, preferably books on government and political economy.
Green . . .	2,000.00	Books relating to American history.
Charlotte Harris .	10,000.00	Books for Charlestown Branch, published before 1850.
Thomas B. Harris .	1,000.00	For benefit of the Charlestown Branch.
Hyde . . .	3,632.40	Unrestricted.
Knapp . . .	10,000.00	For the purchase of books.
Abbott Lawrence .	10,000.00	Books having a permanent value.
Edward Lawrence .	500.00	"To hold and apply the income and so much of the principal as they [the Trustees] may choose to the purchase of special books of reference to be kept and used only at the Charlestown Branch of said Public Library."
Lewis . . .	5,000.00	For the purchase of old and rare books to be added to the John A. Lewis library.
Loring . . .	500.00	Memorial Fund, from the income of which books are to be bought for the West End Branch.
Mead . . .	2,500.00	Unrestricted.
O'Reilly . . .	1,000.00	From the Papyrus Club for the purchase of books as a memorial of John Boyle O'Reilly.
Phillips . . .	30,000.00	"To the maintenance of a free public library." "Purchase of books."
Pierce . . .	5,000.00	"Books of permanent value for the Bates Hall."
Pratt . . .	500.00	For the benefit of the Dorchester Branch.
Scholfield . . .	61,800.00	To be used for books of permanent value.
Sewall . . .	25,000.00	For the purchase of books.
Skinner . . .	51,732.14	Unrestricted.
South Boston . .	100.00	For benefit of the South Boston Branch.
Ticknor . . .	4,000.00	Books in Spanish and Portuguese, five years old in some one edition.
Todd . . .	50,000.00	The income to be expended annually for current newspapers of this and other countries.
Townsend . . .	4,000.00	Books five years old in some one edition.
Treadwell . . .	13,987.69	Unrestricted.
Tufts . . .	10,131.77	For the benefit of the Charlestown Branch.
Twentieth Regiment	5,000.00	"For the purchase of books of a military and patriotic character, to be placed in the alcove appropriated as a Memorial of the Twentieth Regiment."
Wales . . .	5,000.00	For the purchase of books.
Alice L. Whitney .	5,000.00	For the benefit of sick and needy employees and the purchase of books.
James L. Whitney .	5,880.62	For books and manuscripts.
Wilson . . .	1,000.00	For the purchase of books.
<b>Total . . .</b>	<b>\$676,762.17</b>	

## REPORT OF THE EXAMINING COMMITTEE.

The Trustees desire to call special attention to the report of the Examining Committee which is appended hereto and included as a part of this report. The President of the Board of Trustees was chairman of the Committee, and in common with the rest of the Trustees was greatly impressed by the interest which was shown and by the painstaking service which was rendered by the members of the Examining Committee. It is hoped that citizens generally will read this report. They will note many recommendations and suggestions, with most of which the Trustees and the Librarian find themselves in hearty sympathy, the carrying out of which however would necessarily require a much larger appropriation than can at present be hoped for.

Those who were appointed and who have served as members of the Examining Committee for the fiscal year are as follows:

Mr. Henry Abrahams.	Hubert F. Holland, M.D.
Miss Esther G. Barrows.	Mr. William V. Kellen.
Mr. Jeremiah E. Burke.	Mr. William A. Leahy.
Mr. John J. Dailey.	Mrs. Helen F. Lougee.
Mrs. William H. Devine.	Mr. Joseph B. Maccabe.
Mr. William H. Downes.	Mr. Francis A. Morse.
Mr. James E. Downey.	Mrs. Everett Morss.
Mr. Walter F. Downey.	Rev. Charles E. Park, D.D.
Mrs. David A. Ellis.	Mr. Cornelius A. Parker.
Rev. Harold L. Hanson.	Rev. W. Dewees Roberts.
Mrs. Charles F. Hill.	Prof. Frank Vogel.
Mr. Robert F. Waul.	

## CONCLUSION.

The Trustees cannot close this report without calling attention to the loyal and efficient service of the Librarian, Assistant Librarian and members of the staff during the past year. When it is borne in mind that there has been a large increase in the amount of service in all departments of the system and that the home circulation of books has been over 223,000 in excess of the previous year, it will be readily understood what this has meant in the way of increased labor for a staff which has received but few additions to its number during the year. There is a limit to the number of books which can be made available for the use

of the public without increasing the personnel of the Library staff.

The Trustees desire to call the thoughtful attention of Your Honor and through you, the citizens of the city, to the fact that generous appropriations for the purchase of new books must from now on carry with them sufficient money for the necessary increase in the staff if these books are to be made available for public use.

ALEXANDER MANN,  
SAMUEL CARR,  
ARTHUR T. CONNOLLY,  
LOUIS E. KIRSTEIN,  
MICHAEL J. MURRAY.



## BALANCE SHEET, RECEIPTS AND

DR.

## CENTRAL LIBRARY AND BRANCHES:

## To expenditures for

Permanent employees (exclusive of Printing and  
Bindery Departments) . . . . . \$354,894.79

Temporary employees . . . . . 94,859.88

\$449,754.67

## Service other than personal:

Postage . . . . . \$ 1,796.87

Advertising . . . . . 13.00

Transportation of persons . . . . . 229.99

Cartage and freight . . . . . 12,099.13

Light and power . . . . . 11,633.09

Rent, taxes, and water . . . . . 14,968.46

Premium on surety bond . . . . . 5.00

Communication . . . . . 1,255.82

Cleaning, towels, etc. . . . . 922.56

Removal of snow . . . . . 308.40

Examinations . . . . . 115.50

Expert and architect . . . . . 756.68

Fees . . . . . 7.00

Extermination of insects . . . . . 2.00

Boiler inspection . . . . . 41.00

General plant repairs . . . . . 24,928.59

69,083.09

## To expenditures for equipment:

Furniture . . . . . \$ 3,753.68

Office . . . . . 609.91

## Books:

City appropriation . . . . . \$92,509.10

Trust Funds Income . . . . . 17,719.75

110,228.85

Newspapers (from Todd Fund Income) . . . . . 2,000.00

Newspapers (from Center Fund Income) . . . . . 444.13

Periodicals . . . . . 8,697.22

Tools and instruments . . . . . 507.62

General plant equipment . . . . . 640.44

126,881.85

## To expenditures for supplies:

Office . . . . . \$ 3,151.40

Ice . . . . . 440.91

Fuel . . . . . 25,394.75

Forage and animals . . . . . 10.00

Medical . . . . . 16.14

Laundry, cleaning and toilet . . . . . 991.71

Agricultural . . . . . 268.72

Chemicals and disinfectants . . . . . 68.60

General plant . . . . . 1,649.51

31,991.74

Carried forward . . . . .

\$677,711.35

## EXPENSES, JANUARY 31, 1922.

CR.

By City Appropriation 1921-1922 . . . . .	\$747,120.00	
Special appropriation (Jeffries Point Reading Room) . . . . .	4,000.00	
Income from Trust Funds . . . . .	23,531.66	
Income from James L. Whitney Bibliographic Account . . . . .	700.00	
Interest on deposit in London . . . . .	372.39	
	<hr/>	\$775,724.05

By Balances Brought Forward from February 1, 1921:		
Trust Funds Income, City Treasury . . . . .	\$52,201.68	
Trust Funds Income on deposit in London . . . . .	3,747.12	
City appropriation on deposit in London . . . . .	6,226.52	
James L. Whitney Bibliographic Account . . . . .	3,160.61	
	<hr/>	65,335.93

Carried forward . . . . . \$841,059.98

## BALANCE SHEET, RECEIPTS AND

DR.

<i>Brought forward</i> . . . . .		\$677,711.35
To expenditures for material:		
Building . . . . .	\$ 5.32	
Electrical . . . . .	1,457.41	
General plant . . . . .	2,689.01	
		<u>4,151.74</u>
Special item:		
To expenditures from Alice L. Whitney Fund . . . . .	\$297.00	
		<u>297.00</u>
BINDING DEPARTMENT:		
To expenditures for salaries . . . . .	\$54,537.48	
Stock . . . . .	3,782.46	
Equipment . . . . .	329.88	
Contract work . . . . .	14.75	
Cleaning . . . . .	322.38	
Repairs . . . . .	124.67	
Supplies . . . . .	131.60	
		<u>59,243.22</u>
PRINTING DEPARTMENT:		
To expenditures for salaries . . . . .	\$12,227.80	
Stock . . . . .	1,623.80	
Equipment . . . . .	480.39	
Gas . . . . .	11.57	
Contract work . . . . .	277.14	
Cleaning . . . . .	322.38	
Repairs . . . . .	67.62	
Small supplies . . . . .	145.49	
		<u>15,156.19</u>
JEFFRIES POINT READING ROOM:		
To expenditures for salaries . . . . .	\$742.16	
Service other than personal . . . . .	507.17	
Equipment . . . . .	768.34	
General supplies . . . . .	164.89	
		<u>2,182.56</u>
TO AMOUNT PAID INTO CITY TREASURY:		
From fines . . . . .	\$12,073.92	
Sales of catalogues, bulletins and lists . . . . .	56.19	
Commission on telephone stations . . . . .	465.17	
Sale of waste paper . . . . .	153.22	
Payments received for lost books . . . . .	648.45	
Interest on bank deposits . . . . .	55.68	
		<u>13,452.63</u>
TO BALANCE, JANUARY 31, 1922:		
Trust Funds Income on deposit in London . . . . .	\$15,912.22	
City appropriation on deposit in London . . . . .	5,392.36	
Trust Funds Income balance, City Treasury . . . . .	43,107.36	
James L. Whitney Bibliographic Account . . . . .	3,860.61	
		<u>68,272.55</u>
Balance unexpended:		
General appropriation . . . . .		12,227.93
Special appropriation (Jeffries Point Reading Room) . . . . .		1,817.44
		<u>\$854,512.61</u>

## EXPENSES, JANUARY 31, 1922.

		CR.
<i>Brought forward</i> . . . . .		\$841,059.98
By RECEIPTS:		
From fines . . . . .	\$12,073.92	
Sales of catalogues, bulletins and lists . . . . .	56.19	
Commission on telephone stations . . . . .	465.17	
Sale of waste paper . . . . .	153.22	
Payments received for lost books . . . . .	648.45	
Interest on bank deposits . . . . .	55.68	
	<hr/>	13,452.63

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\$854,512.61

# REPORT OF THE EXAMINING COMMITTEE. 1921-1922.

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE  
CITY OF BOSTON.

*Gentlemen:*

Your Examining Committee takes pleasure in submitting the following report, which is compiled from the reports of a number of sub-committees. These sub-committees have been as thorough and as faithful as possible in their investigations, and desire, in the first place to make grateful mention of the cordial assistance they have invariably received from attendants and officials in the Central Library, the branches and the reading rooms.

## FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION.

Our first suggestion relates to the functions of the Examining Committee itself. It seems to us that the Committee might discharge its duties with more satisfaction to its members and at the same time be of greater value to the Library if it were appointed in the Spring and permitted to serve throughout the remainder of the year. We suggest, also, as a means of giving continuity to the work of successive Committees, that, after the members of each new Committee have had an opportunity to make themselves familiar with earlier reports, the Trustees meet them in conference and review with them the reasons for action or inaction on the principal recommendations of the previous year. While we realize that these recommendations have no binding force, we assume that the Trustees would be glad to discuss the problems of the Library with a body of citizens of their own selection.

We have observed with some apprehension the inadequacy of the Central Library building and many of the quarters provided for the branches and reading rooms. In the Central Library the Newspaper and Periodical Rooms are at times uncomfortably crowded. There is already evidence of pressure on the Information Bureau, the Document Service Room and the new Open Shelf Room. On the second floor the Children's Room is unequal to the demands made upon it in busy hours. The book stacks, even with the relief afforded by the annex, will not provide for the probable accessions of more than a very limited period. The catalogue space in Bates Hall is almost exhausted. The Statistical Department is hidden away in cramped and somewhat inaccessible quarters and the Industrial Arts Collection is housed on the top floor with the Fine Arts Collection and made subsidiary to it, although of an essentially different character. The Lecture Hall, unattractive, badly ventilated and poorly equipped, is inferior to the halls in many high schools and municipal buildings.

All of these are growing departments or features of the Library and the future is likely to see much greater congestion in all of them, to say nothing of the creation of new departments. In some of the rooms, no doubt, space may be gained by a rearrangement of the material or the furnishings. But it seems to us that it is not too early to begin considering plans for the new Library building that must inevitably be erected in a few years. Such a building ought, if possible, to be adjacent to the present structure and connected with it. It is conceivable that the present edifice might be reserved for the special collections in the fields of music, art, and general scholarship, as well as for the Patent, Statistical and Industrial Arts Departments, and might serve as a storehouse for much valuable but inert material. Special exhibitions might also be given here on a larger scale than the present facilities permit. In a word, the whole interior of this beautiful structure might be set aside for serious research in an atmosphere of artistic distinction. If this should be thought desirable, the new building might contain the collections which are of more general service and those departments that are frequented by

the general public. A larger and finer lecture hall might also be included in the plans.

As the new Central Building ought naturally to embody the results of experience in a suitable type of structure, so we believe that the outlines of a model branch library should by this time have taken rather definite shape as evidenced by the new building in West Roxbury, and that architects commissioned to design such buildings should be required to conform to the necessities of the Library service, instead of being left free to follow their personal inspirations. In particular, we believe that one of the great problems of the entire system, — the difficulty of attracting adult readers and especially men, — will find its solution in the separation of adults and children in the branches. Where this separation is practised, as in the South End Branch, we observe a marked increase in adult patronage, a reduced percentage of works of fiction among the withdrawals for home use, accompanied by a corresponding increase in the proportion of solid reading matter, and, incidentally, improved order among the younger patrons. As some seven-eighths of the circulation originates in the branches and reading rooms, it is clear that the question of a satisfactory model for the branch buildings is one of primary importance. Pending the gradual embodiment in concrete form of these ideal arrangements, we recommend as complete a separation of adults and children as the existing conditions will allow.

On the subject of circulation we observe that the number of cards discontinued appears to be excessive. While there is a somewhat larger number of renewals and new applications and a small net annual gain, the loss of some 20,000 card-holders every year merits careful study. The published figures show that only about one in eight of our population holds a Library card, and that each card-holder on an average takes out two books a month. We suggest that a reminder sent by mail shortly before the expiration of each person's privilege might result in retaining many of the lapsing card-holders. Other information of value to patrons of the Library might be enclosed. One sees many possibilities in a personal communication which every card-

holder would receive in alternate years. Its cost would be almost nominal and the benefits could easily be determined after a year or two of experiment.

We note that, as Library service becomes more and more complex and the profession develops higher standards, the strain upon the employees is increased. The routine duties are more exacting, while at the same time there is a greater demand from the public for individual attention. The result is a perceptible degree of nervous tension among both the branch workers and those at the Central Library. A large percentage of all the employees combine day and evening work and in the branches and reading rooms evening work is required. When it is considered that the maximum salary of a branch librarian is only about \$1,600 a year and that of an elementary school teacher is \$2,000, with a great disparity in the hours of service and in the period allowed for recuperation, it is clear that many of these devoted women must find their reward in the satisfaction of the work itself and not in the pay, which is less than moderate. It seems to us that a more liberal scale of compensation to those employees who are charged with heavy responsibilities, accompanied by a readjustment of their hours of service and the adoption of measures designed to relax the nervous pressure upon them, must figure in any far-sighted plans for the improvement of the Library system.

We endorse, therefore, the efforts of the Trustees and the Librarian to obtain from the Mayor and the City Council appropriations large enough to provide not only for the necessary upkeep and extension of the plant and the purchase of books in sufficient quantity, but for the efficient conduct of this great institution with due regard to the health and welfare of its faithful employees.

We renew the recommendations of previous committees in favor of the proposed Business Men's Branch and urge that the attention of the Mayor and the City Council be particularly drawn to the advantages of this promising feature.

As a result of our necessarily brief investigations, the impression which we retain is one of constant growth and expanding



usefulness in the Library system. This growth is not merely quantitative but intensive. It is not to be measured by the increase in the number of volumes or in the totals of the annual budget. It is a matter of scope, not bulk, of adaptation and variety rather than mechanical accretion. The present organization of the Library, as compared with that of twenty years ago, reveals a steady movement forward through a process of differentiation, manifesting itself in the development of more and more special departments, as fresh opportunities for service have disclosed themselves. The duties of the modern librarian are no longer confined to the conservation, orderly arrangement and delivery of books. The librarian of to-day is expected to teach the use of his treasures, to inspire a love for them and to guide applicants toward a discriminating selection. He provides exhibitions and lectures, coöperates actively with all the educational forces of the community, and searches out methods of satisfying its various intellectual needs.

This, we believe, is the conception which animates the present authorities of the Public Library. The results of their policy seem to us on the whole richly beneficial to the citizens of Boston. To specify the many evidences of progress that we have noted would be to extend our report beyond its reasonable limits and to repeat what has been well expressed in the reports of recent committees. We must content ourselves with affirming our belief that the Library, while not free from defects, is now under vigilant, intelligent control and is achieving practical results that are worthy of its best traditions.

#### BOOKS AND CATALOGUES.

The Committee is of the opinion that the Library employees should receive an increase in remuneration. Salaries are not commensurate with the exacting labor, intelligence and responsibility demanded of these faithful public servants. They should receive pay equal to that granted to those holding similar positions in the public libraries of the larger cities of the United States.

The library assistants are not only underpaid, but they are also overworked. The greatly increased number of volumes

and the rapidly growing circulation of books make necessary a larger force of employees. For example, the Information Office and the Open Shelf Room should have each an extra assistant. The impaired health of several highly efficient assistants, due to overwork, ought to be a convincing argument for a substantial addition to the present staff of workers.

The enlarged appropriation for books granted the past year made possible the supplying of certain deficiencies in the collections both at the Central Library and the branches. Books for children and new Americans, technical and general reference works have been added in large numbers. The increased patronage of the libraries indicates that these additions have been greatly appreciated. To insure a well rounded collection of books both at Copley Square and the branches an appropriation equal to that of last year should be granted. The Committee suggests that a large and representative committee be appointed for the more systematic selection of books. An effort should be made to secure from public spirited citizens gifts of rare and costly volumes.

The book-carrier system in the Central Library needs renovation in order that books may be more expeditiously handled. Delays in the transmission of volumes, due to defects in the carrier system, are annoying both to the employees and patrons. The lighting arrangements for the card catalogues in the Central Library should be improved. While the lighting standards are well placed, the lights are so dim that it is difficult to read the cards in the lower drawers of the catalogue cases. The standards at the reading tables should be lowered a few inches so that more light will be projected on the books and less in the eyes of the readers. Improvement in the ventilation of Bates Hall is needed.

#### SPECIAL LIBRARIES.

The departments of the Library coming under this head are the Fine Arts, Music, Technology, Barton-Ticknor, etc., on the top floor of the Central Library, and the subjects covered by these special libraries include painting, architecture, sculpture, decoration, illustration, arts and crafts, music, the various tech-

nical arts applied to industrial uses, and the valuable collections kept in the Barton-Ticknor Room, notably those consisting of Shakespeariana, Americana, Prayer-books, Extra-illustrated books, maps, etc.

Your committee, recognizing the growing usefulness of the Technology Collection and its probable future importance to students and specialists, recommends that it be made a distinct Special Library, and set off from the Fine Arts Department, of which it is now a part.

Your committee reiterates the recommendation made by last year's sub-committee on Fine Arts and Music, to the effect that the lamps in the Fine Arts Exhibition Room should be placed higher, and provided with shades and reflectors, so that the light shall be thrown more effectively on the exhibits and not in the eyes of the visitors as at present.

The circulation of pictures from the Central Library and branches is of demonstrated usefulness, and should be further developed and extended in connection with the educational activities of the Library. Especially do we emphasize the obvious advantage of placing before school children of all ages good reproductions of the masterpieces of architecture, sculpture and painting.

#### PRINTING AND BINDING.

Your Committee learned from the Chief of the Binding Department that when a book is sent to his department by some branch library or reading room to be repaired, approximately six weeks elapses before the book is returned to that library or reading room. This may be explained by stating that the work in the Binding Department has increased thirty-five per cent during the past year. Notwithstanding, there are fewer employees in the department to-day than there were twelve years ago. If proper service is to be maintained, it is absolutely necessary that an adequate number of employees be provided.

The equipment and machinery seem to be in very good condition to accomplish the work required in both departments. However, we believe, and respectfully recommend to the Trustees, that a sufficient sum of money be allowed for the pur-

chase of new fonts of type, now very much needed in the Printing Department, in order to facilitate the cataloguing of books in demand by the foreign-born population. This would assist materially in Americanization work.

Your Committee agrees with the Examining Committee of 1920-1921 that these two departments should be maintained under the roof of the Library building.

#### BRANCHES AND READING ROOMS.

From a number of careful and exhaustive reports the following digest is submitted:

In almost all the branches and reading rooms the attendants are greatly overworked and need more assistants.

The universal demand is for more books. Children's books are especially needed in Andrew Square, Tyler Street, South Boston, City Point, Roxbury Crossing, West End, and North End; while more books in foreign languages and Americanization work are especially needed at Andrew Square, Tyler Street, South Boston and Hyde Park.

Attention should be paid to conditions of light and ventilation at Andrew Square, City Point, East Boston, Jamaica Plain, Warren Street, Mattapan, Mt. Bowdoin, Dorchester, West End.

New equipment of various kinds is much needed in the branches. More especially, floor covering to insure quiet at Boylston Station, Dorchester Lower Mills, Mattapan, Mt. Bowdoin; a filing cabinet at Andrew Square, and Codman Square; a card catalogue at Boylston Station; tables at South Boston, Neponset, Codman Square and West End; more shelf-room at Parker Hill and Neponset; chairs at Roxbury Crossing, and West End; lockers at Warren Street; a clock at Parker Hill; some glass doors at Allston; and curtains at Roxbury Crossing.

Cleaning and minor repairs are needed at West End, City Point, Charlestown, Jamaica Plain, Parker Hill, and Mattapan. The doorway at the Brighton Branch could be remodelled to secure far greater comfort.

At some of the branches the present quarters are crowded and hopelessly inadequate and should be either enlarged, as is

quite possible in cases, or wholly new quarters secured. This comment applies especially to Dorchester, Parker Hill, Mt. Pleasant, Field's Corner, Warren Street, Boylston Street, Orient Heights, Allston, Roslindale, Roxbury Crossing, Mt. Bowdoin and Mattapan.

Your Committee suggests that the reading rooms at Faneuil and Mt. Bowdoin might well be changed into branches.

Police attendance is needed at Jamaica Plain, Warren Street, and Parker Hill.

It is suggested, in general, that librarians be encouraged to organize Clean Hands Clubs among children. Such clubs have had beneficial effect where they now exist; also that through co-operation with principals and teachers in Public Schools, it may be possible to lessen the theft and mutilation of books, which at present is a matter demanding attention; also in the interest of better home habits, the Trustees consider the advisability of adopting earlier hours of closing for the younger children in certain of the branches and reading rooms.

The Library carries a quantity of duplicate titles no longer in demand. Is it possible to offer such books for sale to the public of Boston? Also, there are thousands of juvenile books in private houses which have outlived their usefulness, but which might be most acceptable additions to the Library. Is it possible to invite from the public the donation of such books, reserving, of course, the right to reject anything unsuited to the Library's needs? It is suggested that local committees might incidentally serve this purpose, and at the same time give needed encouragement and support in the solution of their various problems to the local libraries. Such a committee is already functioning admirably in West Roxbury, and has set an example which in our judgment is worthy of emulation.

#### CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT AND WORK WITH SCHOOLS.

The Committee recommends that there be appointed an Educational Director who should act as a supervisor of the younger library assistants. It would be the function of this Director to organize and supervise an adequate system of educational guidance, by means of which service in the Public Library should

become an educational opportunity for the junior members of the force. It is hoped, thereby, that their ambition would be stimulated for advancement, not only in library work, but also in a broader life work of service outside.

The Committee calls attention to the need of trained librarians in the Children's Department. Still more urgent is the need of a high morale among the employees of the Library — a morale that can be attained only through increased remuneration for the amount of work required. The morale of the force is of vital importance. More important than increased number of books or employees with new duties, is the personal influence of those who come in contact with the children of the schools. The loyalty of the existing corps is commended in the highest terms, yet the present maximum of compensation cannot fail, as time goes on, to lower the general efficiency of the entire working force.

The increase in the number of books has been greatly appreciated, as is indicated by their use. Further increase in the number of books will, however, demand a larger number of trained children's librarians.

The existing condition with reference to the mutilation and loss of books is most discouraging, and demands earnest study and coöperation on the part of the schools. The Committee suggests that this matter be taken up with the Superintendent of Schools and with the Principals Association in order that some method may be devised by which this deplorable condition may be remedied.

The Committee further recommends that there be properly organized visits of classes in the schools to the Public Library with a view to broadening the knowledge of the children in regard to the opportunities the Library affords.

#### CONCLUSION.

In conclusion, the Committee as a whole wishes to endorse and emphasize the appeal for better pay for the Library staff made by several of its sub-committees. We appreciate the reluctance of the Trustees to add to the burdens of the taxpayers and the difficulty of securing increased appropriations; but the

present scale of pay, when compared with that which prevails in other cities, affords reasonable ground for dissatisfaction and admittedly tends to deter the best material from entering the service. Nothing, in our opinion, would do so much to encourage the present staff and to ensure a future supply of desirable applicants for positions as an earnest plea, fortified by convincing tables of comparison, addressed to the Mayor and the City Council in behalf of what seems to us a just measure of return to the Library workers.

Adopted as the Report of the Examining Committee, February 1, 1922.

## REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN.

*To the Board of Trustees:*

I respectfully submit my report for the year ending January 31, 1922.

### SERVICE.

The Examining Committee of the Library and the Librarian have called to the attention of the Trustees the need of more assistants in certain departments of the Central Library and at many of the branches and reading rooms, in order that adequate service to the public may be maintained. The growth of work throughout the system during the past three years has been more than normal, but there has been no corresponding increase in staff personnel. With the enlarged book appropriations of the last few years and the resultant handling of many thousand more books than in the years previous, with a notable increase in circulation and a marked growth in the number of Library patrons making use of the reference and other non-circulating collections, the strength of the staff has been taxed to its utmost. As a matter of fact, there were during the year several cases of actual breakdown necessitating leaves of absence, and other cases in which librarians and assistants were clearly overworked. The solution is to be found only in the employment of a larger number of trained assistants, and in the filling of certain vacancies now existing. The time has come when there must be either a larger appropriation for personal service or a curtailment in work and in hours of opening. It is unfortunate that this need should be concomitant with the demand for more funds to pay larger and deserved salaries to many assistants already in the service of the Library. Comparison of salaries paid in other libraries which are comparable to the Boston institution clearly shows the justness of the con-



tentions of the Librarian and the Examining Committees for several years past, urging the propriety of paying the library assistants more adequately for their services.

#### BOOKS AND MORE BOOKS.

The opening words of the report of the Librarian for last year were as follows:

The need for more books throughout the Library system is just as pressing as it was last year. If the quantity and quality of its collections are to be even reasonably met, a decided increase in the book appropriation must be made. Although the expenditure of an unusual amount of money was made for the purchase of books for children during the past year, the children's rooms in many branches show empty shelves.

The application of these words is equally compelling at the opening of the new fiscal year. While it is true that the volumes on the shelves of the Central Library, its thirty-one branches and reading rooms, and its three hundred and twenty deposit stations, now number 1,258,211, it is not generally realized that only about one-half of this total constitutes the circulating collection of books of the Library, the volumes in popular and more or less constant use. Among the non-circulating books are to be numbered the many unique special collections of the Library, the reference collections in the Central building and the branches, reserved for use in the reading rooms of the system, the vast number of municipal, state and federal documents and reports, the bound files of newspapers and periodicals, the unusual and expensive books, and the many volumes in foreign languages, the majority of which are represented by one copy only. Then there is the great mass of out-of-date books comprising the early editions of standard texts and treatises, and antiquated books in all fields of learning, for which call is seldom made. All of this material, however, while seldom in demand for home reading, has its legitimate place in a public scholarly institution of learning, used by students and research workers in many fields.

In reading the following account of books acquired during the fiscal year of 1921-22, it should be remembered that the increase in the average cost of domestic books over the cost in 1913-14 is

forty per cent. This increase applies to scientific and technical books, books of travel, biography and fiction. Of books published in Great Britain, the average increase in cost is from ten to fifteen per cent. The cost of books published on the continent of Europe, partially offset by the exchange favorable to the Library, is about twenty-five per cent above that of 1913-14.

During the year just closed 77,881 volumes have been added to the Library system, or 18,150 volumes more than in 1920-21. Of these 66,185 were purchased, 9,964 were given, 95 were acquired through exchange, and 1,637 consisted of bound newspapers and periodicals.

The total amount expended for books, periodicals, newspapers, photographs, and lantern slides, was \$121,667.19, including \$20,460.87 from Trust funds. The corresponding expenditure for 1920-21 was \$78,954.70, including \$17,739.97 from Trust funds.

The fact that over 18,000 more books were placed on the shelves of the Library system last year than during the twelve preceding months doubtless had much to do with the increased home circulation of books, which was 2,672,646, a welcome increase of 223,870 over the previous year. The home circulation from the Central Library was about seven and three-tenths per cent greater than the year before, while the circulation from the branches and reading rooms showed a gain of about nine and three-fifths per cent. All of the sixteen branches, excepting the South End Branch, and all of the seventeen reading rooms, excepting Lower Mills and City Point, made an increase in the number of books drawn for home use from the libraries. On page 51 of the Appendix will be found a table showing the central, branch and reading room "home circulation" of books for the years from 1916-17 to 1921-22, inclusive. The Central Library, the branches and reading rooms, all record gains in the number of books used for various purposes in the reading and study rooms of the Library system.

From the current city appropriation of \$100,000 for books, there was expended \$99,999.77, plus \$1,206.55 paid from the London account for books bought abroad, making a total ex-

penditure of \$101,206.32 as distinct from purchases paid from Trust funds. Of this total, \$77,249.23 were expended for books for branches and deposit use and \$15,259.72 for the Central Library. In addition there were expended for current periodicals \$8,697.22, of which \$3,703.23 were for branches and \$4,993.99 for the Central Library. There were expended from Trust funds \$20,460.87, of which \$17,069.32 were for books, \$601.96 for photographs, \$349.75 for lantern slides, and \$2,439.84 for newspapers.

Early in the year 1921 there was made a careful survey of the special needs for books, especially in the branches and reading rooms, and a tentative scheme for purchase was laid out dependent upon the appropriation made by the city. This plan provided for a greatly increased number of books for children, the latest editions of the principal reference books, good working collections of books in certain special fields not adequately represented, such as technical books, books in the fine and industrial arts, books in foreign languages, and a greater liberality in the provision of a considerable number of copies of books of popular interest, including the subjects of biography, travel and business. In the main this provisional plan has been adhered to in the purchases made from the largest book appropriation in the history of the institution, with the natural result that all previous records of accessions have been exceeded.

Among the books which have been acquired were 31,000 for younger readers, including 6,000 educational textbooks, at a cost of \$25,000. From four to ten copies of some of these books were placed in each branch and reading room. For reference books of higher cost for branches, including the latest editions of encyclopaedias, dictionaries, atlases, etc., the sum of \$10,000 was expended; for a specially selected collection of technical books, \$2,000; and for a collection in the fine and industrial arts, \$1,200. New fiction, distributed throughout the system, constituted 5,219 volumes, comprising 443 titles, of which 87 were in foreign languages, cost \$8,615.08, an average price of \$1.65 a volume. The smallest number of new books purchased for a branch (Jamaica Plain) was 1,071, the largest

(West End) 3,527; the smallest number for a reading room (Lower Mills) was 360, the largest (Boylston Station) 1,906.

For the new reading room at Jeffries Point, opened to the public October 15, 1921, 1,813 volumes and a group of periodicals were bought at a cost of \$2,846. On account of the unforeseen cost of equipping this station with reading matter out of the general appropriation, it was found necessary to defer any large purchase of books on business and related subjects needed for the Central Library. Other general purchases consisted of an increased number of copies of books much in demand, including works of biography, history, travel, and technology; directories and books of ready reference for use in the Information Office; Syrian and Armenian books for the Tyler Street Reading Room, works in Italian for the North End Branch and the Jeffries Point Reading Room, Lithuanian, Polish and Bohemian books for the South Boston Branch, Yiddish for the West End and the Warren Street Branches, and Spanish and French books for the Central Library. From the Trust funds a number of important works have been purchased, notably in the field of fine arts, although no large collection has been bought as a unit.

The Library has also notably enriched its collections of books on Shakespeare, Dante, mathematics and astronomy, and has also acquired important Americana and examples of early printing.

It is a disconcerting fact that empty shelves are still often to be seen in many of the branch libraries and reading rooms, especially in the rooms or sections devoted to the use of children. Several hundred new books placed on the shelves to-day are all gone tomorrow, while a line of children ask when there will be more new books, or when some of the old ones will be returned so that they may have their chance with a good story, or a good book of travel, biography or science. The need for more books is ever present and the problem can be met only through a still larger appropriation for their purchase.

Among the noteworthy works acquired during the year, differing widely in content, but as a whole enriching the resources of the institution, were two quarto editions of *Macbeth*, of 1674

and 1687, — formerly in the Shakespearian collection of Marsden J. Perry — entirely different issues from any possessed by the Library, the edition of 1674 being the first edition of Sir William Davenant's alteration of the play, and the edition of 1687 the text as played three years later. For the Dante collection several early editions have been acquired as well as those published in connection with the six hundredth anniversary. Among these may be noted:

Dante, con l'expositione di . . . Bernardino Daniello da Lucca. Venetia. 1568.

Il codice trivulziano 1080 della Divina commedia . . . Milano. 1921. Facsimile of a manuscript written in the year 1337.

#### Other important purchases include:

The first proclamation issued by the first Provincial Congress of Massachusetts and the first to be issued without the sanction of a royal governor, recommending a day of Public Thanksgiving, Thursday, October 22, 1774. Printed in Boston 1774.

A plan of the siege of Yorktown, 1781, by Major Sebastian Bauman, Philadelphia, 1782.

Report of the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations on the petition of . . . Thomas Walpole, Benjamin Franklin, . . . and their associates . . . for a grant of lands on the River Ohio, in North America for the purpose of erecting a new government. London. 1772.

A true servant of his generation . . . a sermon . . . on the death of John Walley, Esq., by Ebenezer Pemberton. Boston. 1712.

Barbaro, Daniele. La pratica della prospettiva. Venetia. 1569.

Speidell, John. New logarithmes. The first inuention whereof, was, by the Honourable Lo: Iohn Nepair Baron of Marchiston, and printed at Edenburgh in Scotland, Anno: 1614. London. 1624.

Brant, Sebastian. Stultifera nauis . . . The ship of fooles, wherein is shewed the folly of all states. Translated out of Latin into English (verse) by Alexander Barclay, priest. London. (1570.)

Cervantes. Galatea dividida en seys libros. Compuesta por Miguel de Cervantes. Paris, 1611. The third edition.

Mela, Pomponius. Pomponij Melle Cosmographi de situ orbis liber primus (-tertius). Impressum. Venetijs. M.CCCC.LXXVIII.

Moryson, Fynes. An itinerary written . . . first in the Latine tongue, and then translated by him into English: containing his ten yeeres travell . . . London. 1617.

Smith, Richard. The assertion and defence of the sacramente of the Aulter. London. 1546.

The more important gifts received during the year have been noted in the current *Quarterly Bulletins* of the Library. Gifts received from 5,411 donors comprised 11,193 volumes, 16,362 serials, 485 photographs, and 48 newspaper subscriptions.

#### REGISTRATION DEPARTMENT.

On February 1, 1921, there were outstanding 105,458 "live" cards, that is, registration cards available for present use. During the year 57,637 cards were added, of which 49,371 were new registrations and 8,296 being renewals. In the same period 53,175 persons have allowed their borrowing privilege to lapse, so that the total number of "live" cards at the close of the fiscal year was 109,950, a gain of 4,492 over the year 1920-21. The registration of teachers numbers 1,169 resident and 249 non-resident. Special privilege cards have been voted by the Trustees to 168 persons and there have been 249 renewals of such cards, making 417 "live" special privilege cards outstanding.

An analysis of registration, August 1, 1919, to July 31, 1921, the first two years of the new registration, noted in the Report for 1919-20, shows the following interesting distribution of "live" cardholders: males over 16 years, 23,699; males under 16 years, 26,077; females over 16 years, 29,310; females under 16 years, 26,720.

#### CATALOGUE AND SHELF DEPARTMENT.

During the year just closed the number of volumes and parts of volumes catalogued was 100,525, representing 60,249 titles. The usual details for two successive years presented by the Chief of the Catalogue Department may be found on page 55 of the Appendix. The number of cards added to the catalogues was 245,858: 214,898 in the Central Library and 30,960 in the branches. Of the cards filed in the Central Library, 66,507 were placed in the Bates Hall and the Issue Department catalogues; 63,741 in the official catalogue; and 84,650 in the catalogues of the Special Libraries and bulletins and lists in process. Temporary author and subject or title cards were filed in the Bates Hall catalogue within a few days after the receipt

of every new bound work. Printed catalogue cards for all new books have been sent, as customary, to the Editor as copy for the Quarterly Bulletin.

The work of recommending desirable titles found in bibliographies, periodicals, lists and texts has been carried on as usual. There are besides many instances of service of which no record is kept; translations are made, letters on bibliographical and other matters are answered, and readers and investigators helped in their researches. These activities cannot appear in the statistics of the Department, but the wide reputation of the Library for generous and scholarly service justifies the time given to this work.

#### PUBLICATIONS.

The third volume (Fourth Series) of the Quarterly Bulletin was finished in December. It contains about 400 pages of printed matter and includes a number of reproductions mentioned in detail below. The greater part of the contents of this volume is devoted, as usual, to lists of new books, but each number has presented editorial matter as well. In the March number a description of the Special Collections of the Library was printed; the June number gave a welcome to the American Library Association, which was holding its convention in this vicinity, and an article on "The Quarterly Bulletin: its contents, its purposes." In September began a series of more detailed accounts of the Special Libraries, and the Barton Library was chosen for this number, the Ticknor Library following in December. The December number also brought out a hitherto unpublished letter from Nicholas Boylston (1771?-1839) with some notes on the Boylston family.

The reproductions which for several years have been a special feature of the Bulletin comprised: (March) a view of Tremont Street looking north from Warrenton Street before widening in 1869, and Champlain's Map of Plymouth Harbor, 1605, with brief historical notes; (June) a view of the Central Library Building from the Southeast; (September) a portrait of Thomas Pennant Barton after a miniature on ivory by Bouchardy, and a portrait of the late editor, Lindsay Swift, after a



photograph by Miss Alice Austin; (December) a portrait of George Ticknor after Sloane's copy of a painting by Sully.

Other publications issued by the Library during the year included the following:

*Catalogue of a Loan Exhibition* commemorating the Anniversary of the Death of John Keats, (1821-1921), held at the Public Library of the City of Boston, February 21 to March 14, 1921. (8) + 63 pages.

*List of Books on Modern Ireland*, consisting of 90 pages, compiled by Lucien E. Taylor of the Catalogue Department, published in April.

*Weekly Lists*, 53 in number, giving brief titles of the most recent additions to the Library and compiled by Lucien E. Taylor.

*Brief Reading Lists*, nos. 18-23, with a second edition of No. 14 (One-act plays). The subjects treated were: No. 18, Nature studies: plant and animal life, compiled by Alice M. Jordan, Supervisor of work with children; No. 19, Dante, prepared in commemoration of the six-hundredth anniversary of Dante's death by Lucien E. Taylor; No. 20, Cookery, foreign and domestic, compiled by E. Carolyn Merrill of the Catalogue Department; No. 21, Disarmament and substitutes for war, compiled by Michael McCarthy of the Catalogue Department; No. 22, The United States and Japan, compiled by Lucien E. Taylor; No. 23, Christmas, compiled by Mary C. Toy, Children's Librarian.

A new departure in library publications was made in October when appeared the first number of *Library Life: Staff Bulletin of the Boston Public Library*. This periodical which is under the editorial supervision of Frank H. Chase of the Reference Department, is published on the fifteenth of each month, and it carries to the members of the staff items of value and interest, both professional and personal, from every branch of the service — at once a clearing house and a melting pot. A special section entitled "With the Juniors" is in charge of Francis P. Znotas, of the Children's Room. A supplement sent out with each number of *Library Life* is devoted to the *News Notes on*



*Government Publications*, prepared by Edith Guerrier, Supervisor of Circulation, and formerly issued as a separate publication.

#### NEW BRANCH BUILDINGS AND READING ROOMS.

The Jeffries Point Reading Room was opened on October 15 in attractive quarters at 195 Webster Street in the thickly populated Italian district of East Boston. It promises to become one of the most useful reading rooms in the system, and it is already evident that within a short time it will be necessary to enlarge its quarters.

The Library anticipates an opportunity for larger service in West Roxbury and in the South End when the new branch building and the new Municipal Building now under construction are finished and equipped. West Roxbury has an exceptionally well-planned and attractive library building in which the citizens of the district will have just cause for pride. The library quarters in the South End Municipal Building will be pleasant and commodious, but it is to be regretted that the Library was located in the basement of the building.

#### INFORMATION OFFICE, GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS AND OPEN SHELF ROOMS.

The Information Office opened last year is proving an invaluable adjunct to the work of the Reference Departments throughout the Library. In addition to city and business directories, a collection of telephone books and other tools for first hand information, it contains a comprehensive and steadily growing card index to information resources both within the Library and outside. The Office maintains rich files of material on vocational guidance and unemployment, which were originally collected and organized by outside agencies. In this room may be found on file one hundred and seventy current periodicals issued by the United States Government and by various business organizations including publications of chambers of commerce in forty-two states and territories and thirteen foreign countries.

In the Government Documents Room adjoining the Information Office the current pamphlets of the Federal Government, as well as a large number of business and periodical publications

are in constant use. An important feature of the service of this office is the filing of clippings from authentic sources on affairs of national significance, such as the Conference on the Limitation of Armaments, tariff, immigration, etc. Statistical studies and tabulations on occupations, industries, finance, wholesale and retail prices, transportation and foreign and domestic commerce are in process of collection.

The Open Shelf Room, also adjoining the Information Office, is a proved success; the response of the public has been enthusiastic. During the first year over thirty thousand volumes of non-fiction have been circulated. New non-fiction is now shelved in this room, and the older collections, including twenty-odd classes of literature, and numbering over four thousand volumes, are in a state of constant revision, which serves to bring to the attention of the users of the Library a large number of books which otherwise might be forgotten or overlooked.

The use of the Information Office may roughly be classified as follows: 35% of its patrons need to be directed to some other part of the Library; 25% are users of telephone books and directories; 30% is composed of business men, students and teachers who desire current Government and business information; and 10% wish information which may be found in the vocational and other files, or in the college catalogues, time tables, railway guides and the few general reference books such as the World Almanac, Lippincott's Gazetteer, Hotel Red Book, and guide-books to the City.

#### BATES HALL.

The Custodian of the Bates Hall Reference Department, in his report for the year, comments on the enlarged use of the reference collections as follows:

Older members of the staff are agreed in saying that Bates Hall was never before so busy as during the past year; this has been especially marked during vacation periods and other times when the Hall has been wont to present a somewhat deserted appearance. Again and again, visitors have expressed surprise at the number of readers — especially of men — to be found in the Hall at hours when libraries are likely to be comparatively empty. This unusual strain upon the resources of the Hall has led to an

increased wear and tear of the reference books, and it will be necessary before long to replace a good many which are badly worn.

It is of interest to note that the growing use of the Information Office by those who are in search of a single fact of current information has caused no apparent diminution in the use of Bates Hall. All the current directories have finally been removed to the Information Office; in this as in other directions, the Office is proving a distinct relief to the Hall.

The contests conducted during the past year by a Boston paper, which involved an intensive use of the large dictionaries, have presented a very real problem. The wear imposed upon the books by these eager prize-seekers is abnormal, and even cruelly destructive. We have now no large dictionary which is in reasonably good condition; even the Murray Oxford Dictionary has suffered severely.

During the past year 550 books, comprising 939 volumes, were placed upon Bates Hall shelves. Of these, 459 (568 volumes) were new books brought from the stacks, and 191 (371 volumes) were removed from other locations in Bates Hall. The removals from the Hall include 331 books (460 volumes) returned to stack, 60 dismissed from the collection as missing, and 3 condemned at the Bindery. The total number of changes in the Hall and its records thus amounts to 944 books, comprising 1,462 volumes. This does not include the new volumes of serials added during the year under the head of "continuations." These amount to approximately 200 volumes.

The Bates Hall Reference Department answered during the year a total of 623 inquiries for information received by mail. Of these 623 letters, 147 came from Massachusetts and 91 from New York State. The remaining inquiries were received from 40 states of the Union and from the District of Columbia, from 5 provinces of Canada, from Porto Rico and from 5 foreign countries.

#### BATES HALL CENTRE DESK, NEWSPAPER AND PATENT ROOMS, CENTRAL LIBRARY.

The attendance in Bates Hall again shows a marked increase over that of the previous year. The maximum number of users of books in the Hall was 336 on October 30, at 5 P.M. The freedom of access to over ten thousand volumes of reference on the open shelves makes it impossible to give an accurate statement of the number of these books consulted, but 251,141

books were brought from the Library stacks to readers and students at the tables of this main reading room, an increase of 26,640 over 1920-21. There have been the usual inevitable delays in handling so large a number of books, but no improvement in service can be anticipated until some modern mechanical system is installed connecting Bates Hall with the distant stacks from which the books are sent.

In the Newspaper Room 267 papers are currently taken and filed for readers. Of this number 190 are published in the United States and 77 in thirty-two foreign countries. The following languages are represented in the foreign collection: English, 44 papers; French, 9 papers; German, 9 papers; Spanish, 4 papers; Swedish, 3 papers; Danish, 2 papers; Italian, 2 papers; and Dutch, Finnish, Norwegian, and Portuguese, 1 paper each.

During the year six papers were added and fourteen papers either ceased publication or were consolidated with others.

Readers applying for bound files of newspapers numbered 18,604; they consulted 33,184 volumes, a decrease from 1920-21 of 577 readers and an increase of 676 volumes consulted. The bound volumes of newspapers now number 8,651 of which 145 were added during the fiscal year.

The Patent collection now numbers 15,984 volumes of which 669 were added during the past year, from the United States, Great Britain, Germany, France, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. During 1921-22, 18,315 persons consulted 107,498 volumes of patents.

#### PERIODICAL ROOM.

The Custodian of the Periodical Room reports the aggregate number reading in the room at certain hours in each of two successive years and the number reported five years ago, as follows:

##### *Attendance.*

At the hours	10 A.M.	12 M.	2 P.M.	4 P.M.	6 P.M.	8 P.M.	9.45 P.M.
1921-22 . .	14,264	15,875	25,943	31,762	21,786	25,619	12,827
1920-21 . .	12,372	14,726	22,653	29,801	20,617	24,514	10,413
1916-17 . .	9,936	13,783	21,295	26,732	19,331	23,206	8,491

The use of bound and unbound files shows a large increase over last year, as follows:

*Bound Volumes.*

	1921-22.	1920-21.
Volumes consulted during day . . . . .	42,924	36,578
Volumes consulted during evenings and Sundays . . . . .	17,581	15,361

*Unbound Numbers of Magazines.*

	1921-22.	1920-21.
Volumes consulted during day . . . . .	52,378	41,823
Volumes consulted during evenings and Sundays . . . . .	22,736	19,745

The current periodicals, exclusive of those issued by state and federal governments, regularly filed for readers in the Periodical Room number 1,147. In addition there are filed for use by readers in other departments current periodicals especially relating to the fields covered by such departments, as follows:

Fine Arts and Music Room . . . . .	146
Statistical Department . . . . .	56
Teachers Reference Room and Children's Room . . . . .	54

The importance and value of periodical literature in reference work, and as a source of information on current topics, is being realized by students from schools and colleges as never before. The Custodian has welcomed classes from elementary and high schools with their teachers and has aided in giving instruction in the use of guides and indexes to periodicals. The college student has become a constant user of the files of periodical literature to be found in the Library system.

DOCUMENTS AND STATISTICS.

Some fifty-seven thousand volumes constitute the collections housed in the Statistical Department of the Central Library. In the Statistics Room there are 22,307 volumes, while some 34,500 volumes conveniently accessible are shelved on the fourth floor of the Annex. The Assistant in charge reports that the use of the Department has increased rather than fallen off since the opening of the room devoted to current federal and state documents adjacent to the Information Office on the ground floor. Indeed, the seating capacity of the department is often insufficient to accommodate its readers. There is imperative need for en-

larged quarters for the growing work of this department which includes, in addition to statistical material, the Library's collection of municipal, state and federal publications and of official publications of foreign countries.

#### SPECIAL LIBRARIES.

The Special Libraries occupying the third floor of the Central building, include the Fine Arts, Technology and Music Divisions, in addition to the special collections shelved in the Barton-Ticknor Room and its adjacent galleries.

The number of volumes issued for "home use" by the Special Libraries during the year was 25,256, as compared with 22,949 for the previous year. The circulation by divisions was as follows: Fine Arts, 7,499 volumes, or 30%; Music, 7,858 volumes, or 31%; Technology, 9,899 volumes, or 39%.

The number of portfolios of mounted pictures sent out on request, chiefly from schools, was 2,288, compared with 2,223 last year. During the past twelve months 588 lantern slides have been added to the collection, making a total of 9,135. The slides loaned during the same period numbered 5,840.

The number of volumes issued for "hall use" by the Music Division was 13,891; from the special collections, 17,866.

#### WORK WITH CHILDREN.

The Supervisor of Work with Children reports a year of marked activity throughout the system. The work, including the story-hour for children in the Central Library and branches, has followed in general the lines described at length in previous reports.

The Supervisor comments as follows:

The year was notable for the unusual supply of children's books made possible by a special allowance from the general book appropriation for that purpose. According to the figures of the Ordering Department some thirty-one thousand orders for replacements and additional or new copies of juvenile books were forwarded during the year. In the purchase of books for children it is promptness of replacement that is important; not the new titles necessarily, but a sufficient supply of standards and classics are most needed. The response to this increased book supply was everywhere evident. It was natural that the circulation should be affected,

but there have been other results fully as noticeable. The desire to obtain new books led to the payment of fines on cards which had been held in many cases for months because of lack of interest in an unattractive book collection. Better discipline is everywhere maintained when a fair stock of books preserves the atmosphere of a reading room.

With the enlarged book allowance the librarians in some branches have been able to develop a collection of books for permanent use in the children's room; such collections are especially desirable in neighborhoods where there is a likelihood of the shelves being entirely depleted and the room losing all semblance of a library.

Such a collection is of importance too where parents wish to make a personal choice of their children's books. Clean books are the best decoration a room for children can have and the greatest inducement to children to become Library users.

Friendly appreciation of library service by the schools is expressed in notes from the teachers in different parts of the city, in the visits of teachers to the libraries, and in requests for librarians to speak to classes in the schools. Occasionally the children themselves write letters telling of their pleasure in the school deposit and designating the books they have particularly enjoyed.

Children's Book Week in November was observed in most of the branches and reading rooms by special exhibits or by book displays in the windows of the libraries. Each year the publicity given at this time to the matter of the selection of children's books brings a large number of parents to the Library for the aid it can give to them. It also furnishes an opportunity for the librarians to address schools and mothers' clubs. For free distribution the Library bought from the American Library Association several thousand copies of an attractively printed list of books recommended as Christmas gifts. In Hyde Park the local paper printed lists of favorite books whose names were contributed by the children through the librarian. At Roxbury Crossing, where bookstores are few, the window display in the reading room brought many inquiries from parents, and the librarian reports that she could have sold several times over such books as *Kidnapped* and *Treasure Island*, with Wyeth's illustrations.

Several exhibits have been held in the Children's Room at the Central Library, including a Pilgrim village made by a club whose activities are centered in the North End Branch, and several "play projects," the work of different classes in the public schools of the city.

During the summer members of the staff of the Children's Department assisted in book distribution and reading aloud to the patients in the children's wards of the Boston City Hospital.

Many requests for lists of books for individual children have been received from correspondents in far distant places and have been answered by the Children's Department. In addition two brief reading lists were



prepared: Nature studies: plant and animal life, published in the Spring; and Christmas, including references to poems, plays and stories, published in November. The latter has been especially useful, as it makes more generally available material which has been tried out in the Children's Room over a term of years.

It has been possible to extend the story-telling activity into a larger number of schools during the year just closed and thus to reach more children than ever before. Through the continued interest of the Americanization Committee of the Boston Chamber of Commerce a greater number of school districts have been visited and the bond between the library and the schools strengthened thereby. The library story hours have reflected the awakened interest in every instance; the teachers also speak with great appreciation of the service the institution is rendering in making literature alive for boys and girls.

Gifts for the purchase of books for the children's room in the East Boston Branch were received from the Home Club and the Women's Club of East Boston. It is peculiarly gratifying to have such expressions of interest in work with children from local institutions.

In any report of the work with children, due recognition must be given to the service of the Teachers' Room which is a part of the Children's Department of the Central Library. The care of the educational magazines and of the books for University Extension Courses placed on deposit there, and the renewal and revision of the general reference collection, makes varied and exacting demands upon the attendant in the room.

During the year just closed the Supervisor of Work with Children met twenty-seven engagements to speak on children's books or topics relating to the work of her department.

#### SUPERVISOR OF CIRCULATION.

The work of the Supervisor of Circulation is so closely co-ordinated with the activities of other departments, especially those of the branch system, that it is difficult to give a detailed account of it. In general, simplification of routine and the many minor processes of re-organization effected during the past two years have resulted in a marked reduction of detailed work with a consequent saving of time and money. Several useful tables of statistical data have been worked out by the Supervisor, with the aid of the different departments, whereby it is becoming increasingly possible to forecast future needs of the service as well as to survey the work of the past years. The perspective thus



obtained should contribute toward a steady gain in the efficiency of the Library.

#### BRANCHES AND READING ROOMS.

The number of branch libraries is 16 and the number of reading rooms 15, as compared with 16 branches and 14 reading rooms a year ago. The subsidiary agencies, served through the Branch Department, include 58 fire engine houses, 40 institutions, and 191 schools, of which 19 are parochial schools. The total number of Library agencies, therefore, is 320, as compared with 317 a year ago.

The number of volumes issued on borrowers' cards at the Central Library through the Branch Department was 106,556, as against 108,169 in 1920-21 and 96,000 in 1919-20. These figures show a loss of 1,613 volumes issued during the last year. The loss is slight and is to be accounted for chiefly by the very generous additions to the permanent collections of the branches and reading rooms. Where there is a large supply of new books on the shelves of a branch, cardholders are not so likely to send to the Central Library. The number of slips representing requests for books was practically the same as last year, but the proportion of unsuccessful calls for books was lower, being 56.6% against 58.8% last year. Of the total unsuccessful requests only 63,288 called for fiction, as against 80,947 a year ago. Of the total number of volumes sent out from the Central Library this year through the branches 85,649 were taken directly from the shelves of the Deposit Collection in the Central Library.

Three branches and 8 reading rooms show substantial gains in circulation over the previous year; the increase in circulation at the South Boston Branch being over 16,000 volumes.

The number of volumes sent out on deposit from the Central Library was 44,257, as against 46,972 last year and 43,013 in 1919-20. The number of volumes thus sent out often fluctuates from causes beyond the immediate control of the Library, depending, as it does, upon the needs of the schools, institutions, and other agencies of deposit. This past year at one time the pressure of work at the Central Library caused the omission of

deposits to reading rooms for one month or more, and a delay in making up school deposits for a period longer than was desirable. The number of volumes sent to schools from the Central Library and branches and reading rooms was 46,096, compared with 43,196 last year. Of this number 17,222 were sent by the Branch Department, Central Library, as compared with 17,023 the year before. The number of individual teachers supplied was practically the same, being 1,100 as against 1,118 in 1920-21.

Attention is called to the following quotations from the report of Marian A. McCarthy, who has charge of the binding of branch books:

During the past year special attention has been directed to the upkeep and repair of the branch books. The poor quality and construction of the average book makes vigilance necessary. Trained judgment in the care of books is now more important than ever.

To acquaint branch assistants with the construction of a book and to train them as to the best methods and materials to be used in mending, classes in book repairing have been held at the Central Library. Here exhibits of mending materials and mounted examples of the various processes of book repairing are displayed. Samples of the comparative stages in binding a book by machinery and by hand are also exhibited.

The coöperation of the children in the care of the books has been sought by sending to the branch libraries and schools sets of gaily colored posters, following them by a little talk on the "story of the book" and an appeal for better care of the library books.

The total circulation of the branch system for the year was 2,318,059 volumes, compared with 2,129,407 the year before, and 1,992,987 in 1919-20, a gain of 188,652 volumes over the year 1920-21. All of the branches, with the exception of one, show a gain in circulation; in some of them a gain of over 10,000 volumes. All of the reading rooms but three made a gain many of them from 5,000 to 10,000 each. The larger supply of books was the chief factor in this result.

The number of new books bought for the branches was 17,477 as against 10,688 in 1920-21. There have been replacements to the number of 14,600 volumes compared with 12,686 the year before. The additions to the permanent collections of the reading rooms was 16,163 volumes compared with 7,731

in 1920-21. Special attention was given during the year to building up the collection of reference books, technical books, and books relating to fine arts. The number of books issued on deposit from the branch libraries, chiefly to schools, was 48,357 compared with 45,507 last year.

In the Appendix to this report may be found interesting quotations from the reports of the librarians of several branches and reading rooms — quotations valuable because they indicate some of the significant and varied activities and problems that are met with in the course of the year.

#### THE BINDERY AND PRINTING DEPARTMENTS.

During the year the Finance Commission of the City of Boston has made an investigation of the Bindery. A report submitted to the Commission by Mr. Frank J. Barnard, Jr., a well-known Boston binder, after a study of the Library plant, was referred to the Board of Trustees. A Committee of the Board asked the Chief of the Library Bindery to reply to the criticisms and suggestions presented and then, after a study of the two reports, the Committee submitted them to Mr. Charles W. Facey, Chief of the Bindery of the Harvard College Library, for his consideration. The Committee of the Trustees and the Librarian gave careful study to the three reports, held conferences with Messrs. Kenney and Facey, and then reported to the Board of Trustees. After further deliberation by the Board it was decided that all the activities of the Library Bindery ought to be continued in the Central building and that increased appropriations should be sought in order to place the plant in a position to carry on its work with a modern equipment of machinery, an economy which will pay for the investment in a short time and will increase the present efficiency of the Department.

The usual statistics furnished by the Chiefs of the Bindery and Printing Department may be found on page 63 of the Appendix.

#### LECTURES AND EXHIBITIONS.

Lists of the Library courses of free lectures given during the season, of the lectures given under the auspices of various civic

societies, and of the public exhibitions held at the Central Library during the year, may be found on pages 60–63 of the Appendix. As in former years, the record covers the period from the fall of 1921 through the spring of 1922.

In the public lecture course on Thursday evenings and Sunday afternoons are included, as in former years, the course on outdoor life provided by the Field and Forest Club, and the course on the drama and theatre provided by the Drama League. The Boston Ruskin Club continued its public meetings and lectures on alternate Mondays.

The demand for the use of the Lecture Hall has increased to such a degree that requests have to be denied repeatedly; the hall was in use every evening, most of the afternoons, and many forenoons during the winter. University Extension courses on the following topics were given in the Hall: Survey of English Literature (to Library assistants), Elementary English Composition, Conversational French, Conversational Spanish, Present-day Economics, Foreign Trade, and Public Speaking. A course on the Appreciation of Music was given by the Trade Union College. Eight public lectures were given under the auspices of the New England Home Economics Association and six by the Massachusetts State Federation of Women's Clubs. Meetings were held by the Women's Auxiliary of the American Legion, Boston Elementary Teachers' Club, the Massachusetts Library Club, Women's Municipal League, National Council of Geography Teachers, Parent-Teachers Association, American Folk Lore Society, and the New England Anti-Vivisection Society. The Dickens Fellowship again provided the annual pre-Christmas reading of Dickens's *Christmas Carol*.

Two largely attended public meetings were held by the Massachusetts Section, National Civic Federation, and the Massachusetts Public Interest League, to discuss respectively the Sheppard-Towner and the Towner-Sterling bills.

As the current year marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of the free lecture courses given in the main Lecture Hall, it has seemed appropriate to print an account of their growth and development. They have given great enjoyment and instruction to thousands

of the citizens of Boston and the neighboring municipalities. From their inception they have been under the thoughtful direction of the Assistant Librarian, Mr. Fleischner, whose interesting sketch may be found on page 57 of the Appendix.

The Pilgrim Tercentenary Exhibition described in the last Annual Report was continued into September, and afforded interest and instruction to thousands of summer tourists.

In connection with the meeting of the American Medical Association held in June there was exhibited Dr. Edward C. Street-er's notable collection of early medical texts, supplemented by some items loaned by the Boston Medical Library.

An exhibition of representative books, prints and photographs relating to Dante and the sexcentenary of the poet's death was held in September; the books remained on view until the end of the year.

The unique collection of original autographs, letters and sketches contributed by world-famous personages for the "Book of the Fatherless Children of France" was exhibited publicly for the first time, and attracted numerous visitors during November.

The exhibition of the Boston Young Men's Christian Union Camera Club proved to be an inspiring display of artistic photography, and revealed unsuspected beauties in familiar Boston spots.

In January the original drawings for the proposed Boston war memorial, submitted by the Mayor's Committee, were shown in Sargent Hall and attracted much attention.

Other loan exhibits of wide popularity were the Poster competitions for school children, held by the Junior Red Cross and the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

#### REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS.

For the first time in a period of years it has been possible to undertake some repairs of major importance.

Extensive work has been done on the roofs of the Brighton, Charlestown, North End, West End and East Boston branches and the Lower Mills and Faneuil reading rooms. Exterior

painting has been done on the Brighton, Charlestown, East Boston, Hyde Park, North End and West End branches, and the Lower Mills and Faneuil reading rooms. Interior painting has been done at the East Boston and North End branches. Important carpentry repair work has also been done at most of the above places, in addition to considerable masonry work and steamfitting. Electric lights have been installed at the Faneuil Reading Room, and a more modern lighting equipment at the North End Branch, the Tyler Street Reading Room and in the Children's Room at the Brighton Branch.

With the approval of the Mayor, the Trustees advertised in the *City Record* of July 30 and August 6 for proposals for the installation and completion of a new electric passenger elevator in the Central Library Building. The contract was awarded to the F. W. Payne Company for the sum of \$5,624. The work on the elevator was completed on November 30. The new equipment is a convenience long desired by the public.

An attractive children's story hour room has been secured at the Brighton Branch by partitioning off a section of the basement. The Children's Room at the Dorchester Branch has been entirely rearranged and refitted making an attractive room. Confidence is expressed that the work with the children of this district will be materially enlarged, now that the children's quarters have been made so satisfactory.

Serious consideration must be given immediately to the need of a thorough overhauling and extension of the pneumatic tube and electric book carrier systems in the Central Library. Both have been in use since the building was first occupied and now need almost constant tinkering and repairs in order that even unsatisfactory service may be secured. A new up-to-date installation will be necessary if quick book delivery from distant parts of the stacks is to be secured; the improvement is of sufficient importance to justify a somewhat large expenditure for the necessary equipment.

In the building of the Blagden Street Annex during the war period two entire floors were left unfinished on account of scarcity of steel and other materials, and the high cost of labor; this

barren, unproductive and much needed space is a sheer waste of capacity and increases the overhead expense. The cost of the three steel stacks installed was provided by means outside the appropriation for the building or the regular city appropriation.

Additional stack room is urgently needed, and a rearrangement for the Special Libraries Department on account of the constant growth of the Technology Division is of paramount importance; this division ought to be provided with a new location. Some preliminary studies have been made to provide a reference room and stack room in the two unfinished floors and also to provide similar accommodations for the inconveniently located Statistical Department, with entrance to both departments from the Special Libraries floor.

It is to be regretted that repairs and improvements in the Lecture Hall, postponed for so many years, are still impossible. The ventilation is criminally bad and the Hall itself is distressingly dingy. The addition of a moving picture equipment, repeatedly recommended by the Examining Committees and favorably considered by the Trustees, is certainly necessary in an up-to-date public hall.

#### STAFF INSTRUCTION.

Twelve members of the Library staff registered at Simmons College during the year in seven library courses and also in courses in French, Spanish, History, Economics, and Psychology. An unusual opportunity is offered to the employees of the institution, when it is realized that practically all courses offered by the College, through the courtesy of its President and Corporation, are available to them without expense on recommendation of the Librarian. The difficulty of sparing them from the daily routine of work is perhaps the chief reason why assistants have not enrolled for courses in larger numbers.

Professor R. E. Rogers of the Department of English and History of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, began on January 6, the first of a series of twenty lectures on Outlines of English Literature, being a special survey for library assistants.

The course is presented on request through the Extension Division of the State Board of Education.

A series of Informal Talks and Round Table Conferences, planned for the younger employees of the Library, began on January 5 and will extend to April 27. The course is exceptional inasmuch as it does not aim to give formal instruction. It will consist, rather, of homely and interesting addresses by successful librarians on their work in other libraries, showing the ambitious and persistent young assistant a sure way to recognition and advancement. The value of such a course should be marked; the outcome of the series will be noted with much interest.

#### AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

The national Library Association, composed of librarians and library trustees, held its forty-third annual Conference at Swampscott, Massachusetts, during the week of June 20th. The Trustees of the Public Library joined with the Board of Free Public Library Commissioners of the Commonwealth in inviting the members of the Association to a meeting on Thursday, June 23, held in the open court of the Central Library which was appropriately decorated and lighted for the occasion. Among the speakers were His Excellency the Governor, His Honor the Mayor, the President of the Board of Trustees, Josephine Preston Peabody (Marks), Robert Frost and Joseph C. Lincoln. Music was furnished by the Harvard Alumni Chorus and the Footlight Orchestra. The occasion was a memorable one for the Public Library and the American Library Association.

#### CONCLUSION.

The resignation of the following persons, long in the employ of the Library, is noted with appreciation of their devoted services: Frances H. Goddard, on July 15, after nearly twenty-eight years service in the Ordering Department; Walter G. Forsyth, on September 22 after nearly twenty years given to work in the Catalogue, Reference, and Special Libraries departments.



With deepest regret is recorded the death of Lindsay Swift, Editor of Library publications, which occurred suddenly on September 11 after over forty-three years association with the Institution.

The Librarian wishes to thank all the employees of the Library system for the services they have rendered during the year. A formal annual report does not give opportunity to review and specify the good work carried on quietly, regularly and efficiently by many persons in the several departments. The sum total of all individual honest effort on the part of chiefs of departments, librarians of branches and reading rooms, and from members of the staff generally, has added prestige to the work of the Library and is gratefully acknowledged.

During the past year, as previously, recognition is made of the sympathetic, loyal service of Mr. Otto Fleischner, Assistant Librarian.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES F. D. BELDEN,  
*Librarian.*

## APPENDIX.

### TABLES OF CENTRAL, BRANCH AND READING ROOM CIRCULATION.

	1916-17	1917-18	1918-19	1919-20	1920-21	1921-22
Central Library .	431,846	439,827	441,582	507,038	551,190	591,640
BRANCHES:						
Brighton .	54,871	58,038	58,764	71,720	75,273	79,397
Charlestown .	78,510	78,549	70,828	80,900	91,455	98,780
Codman Square .	80,557	87,038	78,694	85,246	91,721	101,792
Dorchester .	59,284	59,719	60,513	68,173	68,873	70,396
East Boston .	94,036	101,119	94,971	115,062	111,813	120,234
Hyde Park .	74,404	75,726	70,363	78,444	79,592	80,855
Jamaica Plain .	47,933	48,978	48,306	55,771	58,228	60,507
North End .	43,354	51,406	42,123	59,676	69,846	85,187
Roslindale .	.....	.....	.....	66,798	73,310	80,879
Roxbury .	81,500	74,919	71,418	74,024	80,469	80,933
South Boston .	92,364	91,503	89,478	100,602	104,979	121,194
South End .	95,308	94,470	87,465	94,386	99,751	97,403
Upham's Corner .	104,514	108,170	100,009	111,186	113,846	119,375
Warren Street .	.....	.....	.....	88,720	94,991	104,412
West End .	121,420	112,255	107,181	114,162	123,137	136,431
West Roxbury .	45,561	47,341	51,519	55,273	54,956	66,470
READING ROOMS:						
Lower Mills .	17,607	18,546	17,897	18,308	18,040	17,765
Roslindale .	51,221	51,399	56,918	.....	.....	.....
Mattapan .	13,620	14,068	14,757	16,351	16,439	20,499
Neponset .	18,641	15,530	18,474	19,433	22,630	28,789
Mt. Bowdoin .	47,728	52,790	53,200	68,177	73,620	80,492
Allston .	38,534	38,257	41,217	43,492	41,369	47,328
Mt. Pleasant .	41,432	40,092	42,690	48,098	49,949	57,562
Tyler Street .	22,983	16,632	12,556	15,587	31,343	40,039
Warren Street .	66,890	73,096	78,723	.....	.....	.....
Roxbury Crossing	30,647	32,873	37,652	43,232	47,030	57,609
Boylston Station .	31,140	33,700	33,163	40,758	44,829	50,033
Andrew Square .	26,640	27,264	27,266	29,726	30,761	33,944
Orient Heights .	13,753	13,777	14,967	21,133	21,934	27,970
City Point .	56,612	48,503	43,744	33,784	34,510	30,300
Parker Hill .	45,219	46,250	40,044	52,846	48,891	49,209
Faneuil .	22,109	22,625	21,571	22,626	24,001	24,913
Jeffries Point .	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	10,309
Total .	2,050,238	2,074,455	2,028,053	2,300,732	2,448,776	2,672,646

From the above table it may be seen that the circulation from the Central Library has shown not only a steady increase from one year to the next but also that the ratio of increase shows a marked advance since the end of the war. It will be seen also that the circulation from the branches and reading rooms has increased from year to year except during 1818-19 when, owing to the coal shortage, it was found necessary to effect a considerable curtailment of the hours during which the branch libraries were open.

These facts will perhaps appear more clearly if the net gains and losses in circulation are presented, apart from the totals, in the following form:

	VOLUMES
1917-18 gain over preceding year . . . . .	24,217
1918-19 loss from preceding year . . . . .	46,402
1919-20 gain over preceding year . . . . .	272,679
1920-21 gain over preceding year . . . . .	148,044
1921-22 gain over preceding year . . . . .	223,870

#### USE OF BOOKS.

##### CIRCULATION FROM CENTRAL BY MONTHS.

	HOME USE DIRECT.	HOME USE THROUGH BRANCH DEPT.	SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS THROUGH BRANCH DEPT.	TOTALS.
February, 1921 . . . . .	38,208	12,555	15,067	65,830
March, " . . . . .	35,291	10,700	14,711	60,702
April, " . . . . .	34,086	10,174	16,005	60,265
May, " . . . . .	31,246	8,248	15,172	54,666
June, " . . . . .	24,599	7,576	16,129	48,304
July, " . . . . .	19,267	5,052	1,860	26,179
August, " . . . . .	20,975	5,374	1,645	27,994
September, " . . . . .	20,771	4,831	1,485	27,087
October, " . . . . .	26,998	6,194	6,707	39,899
November, " . . . . .	34,920	10,074	11,762	56,756
December, " . . . . .	35,224	14,662	12,894	62,780
January, 1922 . . . . .	33,002	11,062	17,114	61,178
Totals . . . . .	354,587	106,502	130,551	591,640

The figures of total circulation for the year as shown in the first table are distributed in the customary form in the table to be found on the next page.

## DISTRIBUTION OF TOTAL CIRCULATION.

	USE. HOME	INSTITUTIONS. SCHOOLS AND	TOTAL.
<b>CENTRAL LIBRARY:</b>			
a. Direct . . . . .	354,587		
b. Through branches and reading rooms . . . . .	106,502		
c. Schools and institutions, through Branch Dept. . . . .		130,551	591,640
<b>BRANCHES:</b>			
Brighton . . . . .	48,310	31,087	79,397
Charlestown . . . . .	88,605	10,175	98,780
Codman Square . . . . .	97,304	4,488	101,792
Dorchester . . . . .	61,312	9,084	70,396
East Boston . . . . .	103,290	16,944	120,234
Hyde Park . . . . .	76,778	4,077	80,855
Jamaica Plain . . . . .	52,547	7,960	60,507
North End . . . . .	81,598	3,589	85,187
Roslindale . . . . .	78,540	2,339	80,879
Roxbury . . . . .	63,535	17,398	80,933
South Boston . . . . .	106,167	15,027	121,194
South End . . . . .	86,055	11,348	97,403
Upham's Corner . . . . .	109,398	9,977	119,375
Warren Street . . . . .	103,892	520	104,412
West End . . . . .	123,166	13,265	136,431
West Roxbury . . . . .	54,521	11,949	66,470
	<hr/> 1,335,018	<hr/> 169,227	<hr/> 1,504,245
<b>READING ROOMS:</b>			
Lower Mills . . . . .	17,765	. . . .	17,765
Mattapan . . . . .	20,499	. . . .	20,499
Neponset . . . . .	28,789	. . . .	28,789
Mt. Bowdoin . . . . .	80,492	. . . .	80,492
Allston . . . . .	47,328	. . . .	47,328
Mt. Pleasant . . . . .	57,562	. . . .	57,562
Tyler Street . . . . .	39,208	831	40,039
Roxbury Crossing . . . . .	57,609	. . . .	57,609
Boylston Station . . . . .	50,033	. . . .	50,033
Andrew Square . . . . .	33,944	. . . .	33,944
Parker Hill . . . . .	49,209	. . . .	49,209
Orient Heights . . . . .	27,970	. . . .	27,970
City Point . . . . .	30,300	. . . .	30,300
Faneuil . . . . .	24,913	. . . .	24,913
Jeffries Point . . . . .	10,309	. . . .	10,309
	<hr/> 575,930	<hr/> 831	<hr/> 576,761

These figures are condensed into the following:

*Books lent for home use, including circulation through  
schools and institutions.*

From Central Library (including Central Library books issued through the branches and reading rooms) . . . . .	591,640
From branches and reading rooms (other than books received from Cen- tral Library) . . . . .	2,081,006
<hr/> Total number of volumes lent for home use and through schools and institutions . . . . .	<hr/> 2,672,646

	1920-21.	1921-22.
in (excluding ):		
reading rooms	319,369 107,998	354,587 106,502
	427,367	461,089
ation (exclud- tions):		
	1,227,304 505,136	1,335,018 575,930
	1,732,440	1,910,948
Schools and institutions circulation (in- cluding books from Central through the branch system)	228,565	300,609
	2,448,776	2,672,646

Under the inter-library loan system with other libraries the following use of books for the purpose of serious research is shown for two successive years:

	1920-21.	1921-22.
Volumes lent from this Library to other libraries in Massachusetts	1,311	1,315
Lent to libraries outside of Massachusetts	278	306
Totals	1,589	1,621
Applications refused:		
From libraries in Massachusetts	395	346
From libraries outside of Massachusetts	54	75
Totals	449	421
Borrowed from other libraries for use here	37	40

The classified "home-use" circulation of the branches and reading rooms was as follows, for two successive years:

	1920-21.		1921-22	
BRANCHES:	VOLUMES.	PERCENTAGE.	VOLUMES.	PERCENTAGE.
Fiction for adults	357,546	29.3	399,455	30
Non-fiction for adults	140,095	11.5	144,243	11
Juvenile fiction	490,095	40.1	515,342	39
Juvenile non-fiction	233,544	19.1	269,694	20
READING ROOMS:				
Fiction	351,658	70.0	397,402	69
Non-fiction	153,478	30.0	178,528	31

At the Central Library the classified "home-use" circulation shows the following percentages:

	1920-21.	1921-22.
	PERCENTAGES.	PERCENTAGES.
Fiction	49.33+	48.66+
Non-fiction	50.66+	51.33+

## BOOK ACCESSIONS.

## BOOKS ACQUIRED BY PURCHASE.

	1920-21.	1921-22.
For the Central Library:		
From City appropriation . . . .	7,865	7,709
From trust funds income . . . .	3,222	3,461
	<u>11,087</u>	<u>11,170</u>
For branches and reading rooms:		
From City appropriation . . . .	34,246	53,875
From trust funds income . . . .	423	.....
	<u>34,669</u>	<u>53,875</u>
By Fellowes Athenæum (for the Roxbury Branch) . . . . .	1,053	1,140
Totals . . . . .	<u>46,809</u>	<u>66,185</u>

Of the 1,200 volumes acquired by the Fellowes Athenæum during the past year, 1,140 were purchases, 54 were gifts, and 6 were of periodicals bound.

The following statement includes the accessions by purchase combined with books received by gift or otherwise:

	CENTRAL.	BRANCHES.	VOLUMES. TOTAL
Accessions by purchase (including 1,140 volumes by Fellowes Athenæum for Roxbury Branch)	11,170	55,015	66,185
Accessions by gift (including 54 volumes through Fellowes Athenæum for Roxbury Branch) .	8,102	1,669	9,771
Accessions by Statistical Department . . . .	193	.....	193
Accessions by exchange . . . . .	95	.....	95
Accessions by periodicals bound (including 6 through Fellowes Athenæum for Roxbury Branch) . . . . .	1,367	125	1,492
Accessions of newspapers bound . . . . .	145	.....	145
	<u>21,072</u>	<u>56,809</u>	<u>77,881</u>

## THE CATALOGUE.

	VOLS. AND PARTS.	TITLES.	VOLS. AND PARTS.	TITLES.
Catalogued (new):	1920-21.		1921-22.	
Central Library Catalogue . . . . .	22,077	12,868	31,022	14,608
Serials . . . . .	4,000	.....	4,040	.....
Branches . . . . .	31,110	26,943	46,591	39,512
Recatalogued . . . . .	19,037	11,224	18,872	6,129
Totals . . . . .	<u>76,224</u>	<u>51,035</u>	<u>100,525</u>	<u>60,249</u>

## SHELF DEPARTMENT.

The number of volumes shelved and thus made available for public use, taken from the report of the Shelf Department, is:

Placed on the Central Library shelves during the year:	
General collection, new books (including continuations)	27,327
Special collection, new books and transfers	1,880
Books reported lost or missing in previous years, but now found, transfers from branches, etc.	1,583
	<hr/> 30,790
Removed from Central Library shelves during the year:	
Books reported lost or missing, condemned copies not yet replaced, transfers, etc.	10,690
	<hr/>
Net gain, Central Library	20,100
Net gain at branches (including reading-rooms)	13,601
	<hr/>
Net gain, entire library system	33,701

The total number of volumes available for public use at the end of each year since the formation of the Library is shown in the following statement:

1852-53	9,688	1881-82	404,221
1853-54	16,221	1882-83	422,116
1854-55	22,617	1883-84	438,594
1855-56	28,080	1884-85	453,947
1856-57	34,896	1885	460,993
1857-58	70,851	1886	479,421
1858-59	78,043	1887	492,956
1859-60	85,031	1888	505,872
1860-61	97,386	1889	520,508
1861-62	105,034	1890	536,027
1862-63	110,563	1891	556,283
1863-64	116,934	1892	576,237
1864-65	123,016	1893	597,152
1865-66	130,678	1894	610,375
1866-67	136,080	1895	628,297
1867-68	144,092	1896-97	663,763
1868-69	152,796	1897-98	698,888
1869-70	160,573	1898-99	716,050
1870-71	179,250	1899-1900	746,383
1871-72	192,958	1900-01	781,377
1872-73	209,456	1901-02	812,264
1873-74	260,550	1902-03	835,904
1874-75	276,918	1903-04	848,884
1875-76	297,873	1904-05	871,050
1876-77	312,010	1905-06	878,933
1877-78	345,734	1906-07	903,349
1878-79	360,963	1907-08	922,348
1879-80	377,225	1908-09	941,024
1880-81	390,982	1909-10	961,522

1910-11 . . . . .	987,268	1916-17 . . . . .	1,139,682
1911-12 . . . . .	1,006,717	1917-18 . . . . .	1,157,326
1912-13 . . . . .	1,049,011	1918-19 . . . . .	1,173,695
1913-14 . . . . .	1,067,103	1919-20 . . . . .	1,197,498
1914-15 . . . . .	1,098,702	1920-21 . . . . .	1,224,510
1915-16 . . . . .	1,121,747	1921-22 . . . . .	1,258,211

Volumes in entire library system . . . . .	1,258,211
Volumes in the branches and reading-rooms . . . . .	313,297

These volumes are located as follows:

Central Library . . . . .	944,914	West End . . . . .	19,752
Brighton . . . . .	17,104	West Roxbury . . . . .	11,465
Charlestown . . . . .	16,547	Lower Mills . . . . .	1,590
Codman Square . . . . .	7,941	Mattapan . . . . .	1,745
Dorchester . . . . .	19,274	Neponset . . . . .	2,333
East Boston . . . . .	19,468	Mt. Bowdoin . . . . .	7,363
Hyde Park . . . . .	30,355	Allston . . . . .	3,418
Jamaica Plain . . . . .	17,461	Mt. Pleasant . . . . .	4,771
North End . . . . .	8,026	Tyler Street . . . . .	4,166
Roslindale . . . . .	9,709	Roxbury Crossing . . . . .	3,745
Roxbury:		Boylston Station . . . . .	3,716
Fellowes Athenaeum . . . . .	30,932	Andrew Square . . . . .	3,191
Owned by City . . . . .	6,333	Orient Heights . . . . .	3,033
Total, Roxbury . . . . .	37,265	City Point . . . . .	4,291
South Boston . . . . .	17,554	Parker Hill . . . . .	2,169
South End . . . . .	14,565	Faneuil . . . . .	2,978
Upham's Corner . . . . .	10,218	Jeffries Point . . . . .	1,764
Warren Street . . . . .	6,320		

#### FREE PUBLIC LECTURES.

The first public lecture in the present Library building was given in March, 1897. It seems proper therefore to take some cognizance of the 25th anniversary of what has developed into an important Library activity.

The early lectures were exclusively on subjects relating to the fine arts, and were the expansion of numerous classes and club meetings held in the recently opened Fine Arts Deptment, as a means of bringing the collections of books and photographs to the attention of school teachers, architects, artists and the general public. The first illustrated lectures were given under the auspices and at the expense of the Unity Art Club and the Pallas Club. The attendance was so large at the very beginning that some of the lectures had to be repeated several times.

The present Lecture Hall was used at that period as a newspaper reading room, and all kinds of makeshifts had to be resorted to in the attempt to accommodate the public lectures.



The present Exhibition Room, the Barton Room, and the room now occupied by the Statistical Department were used in succession.

The Lecture Hall was formally opened on May 17, 1899. Advantage was taken of the gift of a copy of Chantrey's bust of Sir Walter Scott, and the unveiling of the bust was made the occasion of the opening of the hall. President Solomon Lincoln of the Board of Trustees presided, and the principal address was delivered by President Charles W. Eliot of Harvard University; other speakers were Rev. James De Normandie, Mayor Josiah Quincy, Prof. A. Lawrence Lowell, Edward Robinson, Director of the Museum of Fine Arts, and Hon. Charles Francis Adams.

Under the direct auspices of the Library Trustees, a course of lectures was given in the new Lecture Hall in March and April, 1900. The speakers were Messrs. Whitney, Swift, Ford and Fleischner of the Library staff, Col. T. W. Higginson, Dr. William Everett, Rev. E. E. Hale, and Mr. C. W. Ernst.

A second course offered by the Trustees, on Methods of Municipal Administration, was given in March and April, 1901, the speakers being Professors A. Lawrence Lowell, E. Emerson, Kuno Francke, and F. G. Peabody of Harvard, Prof. W. T. Sedgwick, Mr. Henry Goodnough and Mr. George L. Fox.

A third course, on the Aesthetic Development of Cities, was given in March, April and May, 1902.

The Unity Art Club lectures continued until 1904. In that year what may be called the "Thursday evening courses" were properly inaugurated. Regular courses were provided by the Boston Architectural Club, the Society of Printers, and other organizations.

The Field and Forest Club arranged its first course of lectures on outdoor life on Monday evenings in 1910; the course was combined with the Thursday evening course in 1915, and still continues with great success.

The first lecture under the auspices of the Boston Ruskin Club was given in 1907; since 1914 the Club has held bi-weekly open meetings in the Lecture Hall, with occasional lectures on general topics.

The Sunday afternoon lectures were begun in 1912; since that year the Boston Drama League has provided four lectures annually on the drama and the stage, with growing popularity.

The first music lecture was given by the late Louis C. Elson in 1906. At least four lectures on music, with instrumental or vocal illustrations, are now regularly included in the Sunday courses.

Since 1908 the programmes for the entire course have been printed in the Bulletin for October.

In 1900 a stereopticon was purchased, and in 1920 a Steinway grand piano was added; it is hoped that a moving picture equipment will be installed in the near future.

In all, nine hundred and sixty lectures have been given by five hundred lecturers, of whom four hundred were men and one hundred women. Of this number, about thirty were architects, thirty-two professors and instructors in Harvard University, twelve from the Museum of Fine Arts, five from the Massachusetts Normal Art School, and four each from the Public Schools of Boston, Boston College, Boston University, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and Tufts College; ten lectures were given by members of the Library staff. Yale, Brown, Princeton, Wellesley, Simmons, and the New England Conservatory of Music also provided one or more lecturers each. The remainder of the lecturers have been professional men and women, many of national reputation, travellers, scholars, and other public-spirited citizens.

Space does not permit giving even a partial list of the lecturers. The following list of speakers who gave four or more lectures will give some idea of the readiness of busy men to give their services for the public good: H. T. Bailey, 4; C. H. Bayley, 4; E. H. Baynes, 7; E. C. Black, 9; J. C. Bowker, 8; F. C. Brown, 10; C. T. Carruth, 10; F. H. Chase, 6; A. S. Cooley, 19; J. R. Coolidge, Jr., 7; R. A. Cram, 6; O. Downes, 10; H. Elliott, 5; L. C. Elson, 4; T. A. Fox, 4; C. W. Furlong, 4; T. I. Gasson, 8; H. L. Gideon, 12; A. H. Gilmer, 6; F. M. Greene, 13; F. W. Hersey, 31; L. Jeffers, 5; A. M. Keyes, 4; W. H. Kilham, 6; J. K. Lacock,

4; G. W. Lee, 5; L. R. Lewis, 5; D. G. Lyon, 4; L. C. Newhall, 5; C. S. Olcott, 4; A. K. Peck, 4; M. E. Peck, 10; H. W. Poor, 8; H. H. Powers, 13; G. Richardson, 4; R. E. Rogers, 5; A. D. Ropes, 7; L. M. Rossi, 4; A. S. Schmidt, 5; M. A. S. Shannon, 14; R. C. Sturgis, 4; H. Taylor, 4; W. L. Underwood, 16; F. H. Wade, 16; H. G. Wadlin, 7; C. H. Walker, 12; L. Whiting, 4.

These bald figures give no idea of the sacrifices in time and energy and even outlay of money of the unselfish men and women who without hesitation have repeatedly responded to the appeals of the Assistant Librarian for advice and help; this is especially true of the days of the inception and early growth of the Fine Arts Department. The members of the Boston Architectural Club and the Society of Printers will well remember the consultations and meetings held to arrange suitable lectures and exhibitions and to devise an attractive bait to draw an audience.

With the exception of four or five cases of severe weather or sickness, all the lectures were given as announced in the programmes.

#### THE LECTURES OF 1921-1922.

All lectures, except those marked with an asterisk (\*) were illustrated with lantern slides.

##### 1921

- Oct. 9. \*Dante. Charles H. Grandgent.
- Oct. 13. Italian Art in the time of Dante. George H. Edgell.
- Oct. 16. \*A general historical Review of the Art of Music. F. Stuart Mason. With musical illustrations.
- Oct. 20. Dante through Catholic Eyes. Rev. Mark J. McNeal, S.J.
- Oct. 23. The Truth about Vivisection. Ernest Harold Baynes.
- Oct. 27. The Land of William Tell. Francis Henry Wade.
- Oct. 30. \*Modern American Dramatists: Introductory Lecture, Walter, Moody, Rachel Crothers and others. Frank Chouteau Brown. (Drama League Course.)
- Nov. 3. New England: Its Lakes, Rivers, Mountains and Seacoast. Eugene S. Jones.
- Nov. 6. Literary Landmarks at Home and Abroad. Charles S. Olcott.
- Nov. 10. Our National Forests and the Timber Supply. Philip W. Ayres. (Field and Forest Club Course.)

- Nov. 13. \*Folk Music of the Creoles. Maud Cuney Hare. With vocal illustrations by William H. Richardson, baritone.
- Nov. 17. Florentine Engraving. FitzRoy Carrington.
- Nov. 20. \*Modern American Dramatists: Edward Sheldon and "Romance." Robert E. Rogers. (Drama League Course.)
- Nov. 27. Author's Reading of Poems. With introductory talk on Modern Poetry. Jeanne Robert Foster.
- Dec. 1. Jeanne d'Arc. — Maid of France and Saint. Rev. William M. Stinson, S.J.
- Dec. 4. \*Expression of Truth in Science and Poetry. Alfred C. Lane.
- Dec. 8. Some Italian Mountains of Special Interest. Karl P. Harrington. (Field and Forest Club Course.)
- Dec. 11. Modern American Dramatists: Clyde Fitch. Albert H. Gilmer. (Drama League Course.)
- Dec. 15. European Collecting Experiences. Paul J. Sachs.
- Dec. 18. \*Patriotic Songs of America. John P. Marshall. With musical illustrations.
- Dec. 22. The Roman Catacombs. Rev. John W. H. Corbett.
- Dec. 29. American Furniture of the Georgian Period. Allen French.

## 1922

- Jan. 1. Lecture Recital. Edward A. Thompson.
- Jan. 5. Early Indians: Explorations in the North Woods of Maine. Warren K. Moorehead.
- Jan. 8. Adventures in a Land of Sunshine. W. Lyman Underwood.
- Jan. 12. Cave-Hunting. Charles Peabody. (Field and Forest Club Course.)
- Jan. 15. \*Some aspects of Richard Wagner's Art. Hamilton Crawford Macdougall. With musical illustrations.
- Jan. 19. \*The Great Cycle of Painting. Eben F. Comins. With illustrations on the blackboard.
- Jan. 22. Wild Brother; the Strangest of True Stories from the North Woods. W. Lyman Underwood.
- Jan. 26. Turkey and the Near East. Dr. George L. Richards.
- Jan. 29. \*The Influence of the Stage on the Drama. John Tucker Murray. (Drama League Course.)
- Feb. 2. The Boston of 1822: The Political Background of the Change from Town to City. Samuel Eliot Morison.
- Feb. 5. \*Charles Dickens in the Twentieth Century. E. Charlton Black. (Dickens Fellowship.)
- Feb. 9. Scenery of our Western Mountains. Leroy Jeffers. (Field and Forest Club Course.)
- Feb. 12. \*Abraham Lincoln. Hon. Michael J. Murray.

- Feb. 16. The Arnold Arboretum. Loring Underwood. Illustrated with "direct color" autochrome slides.
- Feb. 19. \*The Pros and Cons of Community Music. Leo R. Lewis. With musical illustrations by the Tufts College Musical Club.
- Feb. 23. Devon: The Land of Sea Kings. Frank Cheney Hersey.
- Feb. 26. \*Modern American Dramatists: Eugene O'Neill and "Beyond the Horizon." Robert E. Rogers. (Drama League Course.)
- Mar. 2. The Mediaeval Glory of France: Paris and the Cathedral Cities. Frederick Parsons.
- Mar. 5. Wild Life in and near Boston. Manley Bacon Townsend.
- Mar. 9. Conservation of Bird Life. Herbert V. Neal. (Field and Forest Club Course.)
- Mar. 12. \*Spreading the News in '75. Horace G. Wadlin.
- Mar. 16. Recent American Architecture. J. Randolph Coolidge, Jr.
- Mar. 19. \*Modern French Music. Edward B. Hill. Assisted by Mme. Suza Doane, pianist.
- Mar. 23. Michelangelo: Sculptor, Painter, Poet. Charles Theodore Carruth.
- Mar. 26. \*Modern American Dramatists: Augustus Thomas. Frank Cheney Hersey. (Drama League Course.)
- Mar. 30. Boston Becomes a City: 1822. Its social, literary and artistic development. Martha A. S. Shannon.
- Apr. 2. \*Relationship of Poetry and Music. Mrs. Beatric K. Stodola. Illustrated by musical readings and piano solos by Edwin Stodola.
- Apr. 6. The Romance of Time-Telling from the Days of the Cave man. Samuel Bernard.
- Apr. 9. \*The Music of Birds. Arthur Edward Wilson. With whistling imitations.

PUBLIC EXHIBITIONS, 1921-1922.

1921

- May Pilgrim Tercentenary Exhibition.  
Foreign Travel Posters.  
Horsfall's Drawings of Birds.
- June Abbott Thayer Memorial.  
Edward C. Streeter Collection of Early Medical Texts.
- July Pilgrim Tercentenary Exhibition (resumed).
- August Pilgrim Tercentenary Exhibition.
- September Dante Sexcentenary Exhibition.
- October Switzerland.  
New England Scenery.

- November Maréchal Foch and Other French Generals of the Great War.  
Howard Leigh's War Lithographs.  
Original Autographs, Letters and Sketches, contributed by  
world-famous personages for the book of the "Fatherless  
Children of France."  
Jeanne d'Arc.
- December Alpine and Other Mountain Scenery.  
Boston Y. M. C. U. Camera Club Exhibition: "Pictorial  
Possibilities of Boston."
- 1922
- January Curtis's American Indians.  
Design for Proposed War Memorial for Boston.  
The great Cycle of Painting.  
Turkey.  
Music Exhibit for Meeting of Massachusetts Library Club.
- February A. A. Hopkins Collection of Dickensiana.
- March Travel Posters.  
Junior Red Cross Poster Competition.  
Recent Tendencies in American Architecture.  
Michelangelo.
- April Edward Everett Hale Centenary.  
General U. S. Grant Centenary.  
Mass. Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Poster  
Competition.

#### THE PRINTING DEPARTMENT.

	1920-21.	1921-22.
Requisitions received and filled . . . . .	320	337
Card Catalogue (Central Library):		
Titles exclusive of Stack 4 (Printing Dept. count) . . . . .	14,166	15,438
Cards finished (exclusive of extras) . . . . .	214,701	214,898
Card Catalogue (Branches):		
Titles (Printing Dept. count) . . . . .	408	636
Cards finished (exclusive of extras) . . . . .	20,986	30,960
Signs . . . . .	1,287	1,775
Blank forms (numbered series) . . . . .	3,543,188	3,695,995
Forms, circulars and sundries (outside numbered series) . . . . .	262,210	46,767
Catalogues and pamphlets . . . . .	149,000	162,460

#### THE BINDERY.

	1920-21.	1921-22.
Number of volumes bound in various styles . . . . .	43,591	44,587
Magazines stitched . . . . .	280	239
Volumes repaired . . . . .	2,278	2,436
Volumes guarded . . . . .	1,187	1,381
Maps mounted . . . . .	71	93
Photographs and engravings mounted . . . . .	3,054	4,492
Library publications folded, stitched and trimmed . . . . .	168,227	163,747

## BRANCHES AND READING ROOMS.

## Extracts from Annual Reports of Branch and Reading Room Librarians.

## MT. PLEASANT READING ROOM.

The work with high school pupils in the library is particularly interesting. They come seeking knowledge on such a variety of subjects that we have to know our reference books very well in order to answer their questions. Some merely want to know the name and location of the book containing the information, and will look up their own references. However, when younger children come in such crowds, all one class perhaps, looking for the same matter which they cannot all look up in one encyclopaedia, we find what is wanted and tell them about it or read to them from the book which contains the desired information. Often the children do not understand what their teacher requires of them and come asking about the queerest things. Our ingenuity is taxed trying to think what they can mean.

A careful study of the magazines helps us a great deal, and when a youthful member of a debating club wishes material on some current event we can give him the latest and best.

## TYLER STREET READING ROOM.

Our registration has increased considerably this year because of our efforts in registering at the schools. Personally, I consider our registering the eleven classes of the Quincy Evening School this Fall, one of our most successful jobs of the year. This piece of work was, to say the least, absorbingly human and from an Americanization point of view exceedingly valuable. It may be of interest to tell here that these evening school classes were composed wholly of adult foreigners, and mostly new arrivals who could not speak English. These were: Syrians, Greeks, Jews, Italians, Poles, French, Spaniards, Germans, and Chinese, men and women, and most of the registration was done in the foreign languages, by the library workers, who between them managed to address the classes in English, Arabic, Italian, Yiddish, Greek, French, Spanish, and German. When our vocabularies in these respective languages ran short, we put our meaning across to them in sympathetic gestures and tones so that they almost voted us their pals. On the whole, they voiced themselves as liking the "American Library Ladies," and we are confident of the fact that not even the Shades of the Mayflower Puritans, nor President Harding himself, could find any flaw in our honest interpretation of America, and its opportunities to these, our eager unfortunate brethren, in search of fields and pastures new. . . .

Our Adult Room is daily increasing in usefulness. In this room we have placed our special collection of foreign books in Arabic, Yiddish,

Greek, Italian, French, with a splendid collection of Easy English, and books on Citizenship. A few technical and non-fiction books have also been added with the hope of meeting the unemployment situation even partially, that the help derived from these technical books may at least qualify some for better jobs, when an opportunity comes. The room is almost always filled with quiet readers of many different races.

The Reference Room continues to be the most popular place in the Library, and one which we must watch very closely because of the valuable books added. Every one using this room is supposed to be on his honor, but I regret to report that many do not know the definition of honor, for the mutilation of books in this room during the year has been most deplorable.

I believe that we may truly say that our constituency is the most varied one in the entire city for nationalities, yet it is quite wonderful to have the Library serve as the most democratic meeting place in the district. The workers are obliged to use foreign languages in the Library daily, and this use is most welcome to the adult foreigner. All who come are keenly appreciative of the "Open door" and the warm welcome and hospitality which we aim to give daily.

The librarian awarded two prizes for the best two essays on "Abraham Lincoln," written by boys who use the library.

We have had an illustrated lecture recital on "Birdland" which was attended by about three hundred people, and a very delightful reading of "Modern Plays and Stories" by Mrs. Louisa James.

The Dover-Broadway Community Council has held several meetings at the library in the forenoons.

The St. James Council (Knights of Columbus) held a meeting at the library.

The Committee on Library Extension of the South End Jewish Welfare Centre met to discuss library conditions at the Tyler Street Library.

The Syrian Club held a meeting at the Library.

The local committee for the extension of better neighborhood conditions held several meetings here with one of the library assistants acting as secretary.

And last, but not least, a grand patriotic concert, composed of local talent, and an address by a Civil War veteran, Col. Edward O. Skelton, was attended by nearly three hundred children of foreign birth, all loudly proclaiming themselves Americans.

We have taken groups of children to as many things as we could possibly be admitted to without charge.

#### CODMAN SQUARE BRANCH.

We are having the story hour now and the attendance has been very good up to the last two times. Our average attendance up to the last two story hours was 100. The last two days brought the average down



to 92.6, for the 12 story hours. The attendance of the girls was always greater than that of the boys, except once. That time the girls were beaten by three. Mr. Connelly, the Master of the Emily A. Fifield School, has been very kind in reminding his pupils every week of the story hour so that the attendance may keep up. Each week one of the girls takes a report to Mr. Connelly of the number from his school who were present at the story hour and how they behaved. Some of the stories told were Erskine Dale, Pioneer, the Christmas Rose, Joyous Quest, and fairy stories from the books by Jacobs, stories of Robin Hood, Young Lucretia, Little Friend Lydia, Solomon Crow's Christmas Pockets, and Pip, from Great Expectations . . .

During March, April and May I had classes over from the Dorchester High School. I had 10 second year English classes and 3 fourth year English classes. I enjoyed having the classes and the teachers told me that the pupils like to come over to the library for these talks.

We have quite a good deal of reference work for adults. A Mission Circle in one of the churches studied Japan all this fall. Several ladies gave five minute papers each month about different phases of Japanese life and customs, so that all our books were used and some had to be sent for from Central.

#### CHARLESTOWN BRANCH.

At this Branch there has been a gradual decrease in the number of missing books since 1916, when it was 256. This is owing to the greater interest on the part of the police officer. The staff is at all times inadequate for watching the public, while the alcoves of the rooms for adults give great opportunity for illegal borrowing. . . .

Because of general unemployment the young men have used the reading room during the day more than usual. The evening brings the students, from eighth grade to college, and some who come only for amusement. It is hard to maintain discipline and quiet for the adult readers. These titles, put up at closing time, on a winter evening, show what the different readers are interested in. The Life of Shakspeare; Heart of the West; The Iron Woman; Milton's Poems; Book of Motor Boats; Our Casualty; Melindy; Dyke's Automobile and Gasoline Engine; Dr. Le Baron and his Daughters; History of the United States; Romance of a Christmas Card; My New Curate; Dictionary of Thoughts; History of Ireland; Standard Dictionary; Land of the Heather.

#### WEST END BRANCH.

The Children's Room shows the effect of the increased book fund. There are more books, and after a summer's work of condemning and replacing, the shelves show the result in their improved appearance. However, after a busy day they are empty and the children realize that it is necessary to come early if they want a book. As has been said before,

the greatest need is in the juvenile collection, where from a collection of 4,904 volumes there was a direct circulation of 80,921 volumes this past year.

The juvenile collection is 24% of the entire collection, while the juvenile circulation is 67% of the total home use. These figures prove how inadequate the juvenile collection is for the demands made upon it.

The lowering of the age limit for card holders brings yearly more children to the library in this crowded community, and our needs are far greater than our supply.

In this branch it is difficult to determine just who the people are that make up our constituency; for unlike the suburban branches, our problems are like those of a large city library. People come here from all parts of the city in addition to those from our own district.

To a great extent it is a shifting population, and consequently we have great difficulty often in recovering our over-detained books. Then again, there is the task of registering new people, and always training new groups of little folks in library ways.

The Boston University School of Religious Education and Social Service has recently moved into the new Suffolk Law School building, which they occupy during the day while the Law School uses the building evenings. This has brought us many new adult borrowers and the students from both schools use the reading room for study and reference work.

Special attention has been given the foreign born women and girls who attend the Bowdoin Evening School. The librarian has made several visits to the school, talking to the classes about the library and the special books for their use. The 75 women registered at this school have been coming regularly to the branch.

We have among our borrowers many of American birth. We have been pleased to note that, of late, the number of these borrowers is increasing.

The district continues to be largely residential, although the homes are often in the midst of industrial plants, factories and stores.

The adult Jewish readers are numerous and they come to us from all parts of the city for the Yiddish and Russian books. Many Jewish people in our own district come only for books in English, — at first, for the books to help them learn the English language, and later for the best things in English literature.

The largest part of the work is, as it always has been, with the children. The percentage of juvenile circulation remains about the same each year, 67%. This same percentage does not hold good for attendance in the reading room. Here the percentage is about 80% adult.

#### WARREN STREET BRANCH.

The reference work always occupies much of our attention without cessation in the summer months, as the high school pupils continue their

research work. The various newspaper contests also mean constant use of the library facilities. However, the plodding high school pupil and eager newspaper contestant are only two of the group. We have the business man, whose subjects range from business law to factory management and advertising; the professional man, interested in questions of the day and the rather personal material offered in "Old at Forty and Young at Sixty" or "How to Develop Your Speaking Voice;" the enthusiastic college student, whose subjects are technical and classical; and the plain man of the trades, who feels the need of a book on "Practical Wiring" or "How to Paint Your House." The following is a partial list of reference topics for the year: Farmers' Aid Bill; Open and Closed Shops; Difficulties in Ireland; Japanese Immigration; Government Ownership of Railroads; Western Union Cable; Decline in Prices; Congressional Districts of Massachusetts; Muensterberg; First Continental Congress; Bridges in the United States; The Norsemen; The Magna Charta; The Model Parliament; London in Shakespeare's Time; Gutenberg; Armistice Day; The Battle of Marathon; Manufacture of Cotton; Lewis Carroll; Names of Women Pilgrims; Democracy—Free Trade—Time Zones; Dante—Marco Polo—Samoan Islands; Balance in Drawing; Indian Tribes—Wheat—Leather—Carpets; Mary Mapes Dodge—Krupp—Harvard University; Tragedy and Comedy; Fire Prevention; Explorers of the Antarctic Regions; Christmas Greens; The City Council; Disarmament; Island of Yap; How to use a Dictionary; Agriculture in Germany.

This district offers many opportunities for Americanization work on account of the population, which consists largely of Russian Jews. There are several schools conducting classes in which the new American may learn English. The hours for these are so arranged that even the busy mothers may take advantage of the study offered. This Branch supplies much of the pupils' reading material. The Russian immigrant newly arrived in the neighborhood, is soon introduced to the library by his interested relatives, and his first choice of a Russian or Yiddish book is followed by an English primer. With the idea of attaining such a result, we have placed the Yiddish and Americanization books side by side. Although this class has shared in the distribution of new literature, additional copies are needed in order to meet the growing demand. Therefore, more book recommendations are now being considered.

#### SOUTH END BRANCH.

With the year ending January 15, 1922, the South End Branch completes the 44th year of its existence, and presumably the last full year in the present building on Shawmut Avenue, formerly known as the "Every Day Church." Before the close of the next year it will probably be housed in the new municipal building across the way. The branch library has a rather migratory history, having occupied since its opening

in 1877 three different dwellings. The proposed change to the municipal building will make that its fourth home. In the years that the branch has lived and served the people here, it has witnessed many changes in the character of the district. From a home and residential section of the city, the South End has become largely a lodging house district with its changing population of many and varying types. Yet perhaps now, more than in the old days, is the library a necessity in this community. For the people who come to us need the library more, having few, if any, books in their homes. To them the library extends a welcome that is friendly, encouraging, and sympathetic. Its doors are open to all, and here the native American and the foreign born stranger find a common ground and an equal share in the privileges it offers. It has been said, and truly, that statistics do not show the real work of a library, and that is especially true of the library here. No one viewing the crowded reading room at the branch on any day or evening during the fall and winter months could fail to realize what the branch library means to the people in this section. All sorts and conditions of men are to be found here; the laborer in his overalls, the business man seeking some special information, the student from college or high school, teachers, professors, clergymen, the Post Office clerk in his free time, the returned soldier, a large proportion of men out of employment, and others who have passed the working age. A constant procession through our doors. No records are kept, and no identification required for the large use of books, newspapers and periodicals in the building. . . .

The erection of the new municipal building here has interested and delighted the entire neighborhood. During the fine weather, the streets about the building were thronged with spectators who watched the progress of the work with eager interest. It is a really fine building, architecturally an ornament to the city, and perfect for the uses for which it was designed. The people of the South End may well be proud of its possession.

The future of the South End Branch Library is to be in this building. There seems every reason to hope that with the closer association which propinquity gives with all the other activities of the neighborhood, the branch library will fill an even more important place in the community, and each year will find it a stronger and more efficient agency for the intellectual and social betterment of the people it serves.

#### SOUTH BOSTON BRANCH.

There was a loss in every item of the daily issue from Central Library for the reason that this year there were more books on our own shelves to choose from.

There is a friendly spirit of cordial coöperation between the library and the schools. This is especially true of the Shurtleff School. Just a week after the schools reopened in the fall, Miss Carrigan (the new principal) invited me to come and talk about the public library and the many

ways in which it can help the people who learn to use it. I gave this talk on September 21, and in the next three days we registered all the children (for new and lost cards) who could not show a library card. Because Miss Carrigan believes in the coöperation of the school and the library, every teacher in the Shurtleff School has been supplied with a deposit of books.

#### ROXBURY BRANCH.

Detective stories and those of western life have been in great demand. The practice of requiring book reports from the pupils in the high schools has caused constant inquiries for the books in the approved list. Recently the contests in the newspapers have brought people to the Branch to consult the reference books, especially the dictionaries, to obtain or verify their answers to questions. While this special use may not result in securing regular patrons it helps to advertise the Library and extend knowledge of the reference books and the assistance that can be obtained here. . .

#### NORTH END BRANCH.

There are seven clubs connected with the North End Library, each one following different lines but with one purpose in view — to promote good reading. The total membership in the different clubs is 119 divided as follows: The Rossi Dramatic Club, 16; Women of History Club, 21; City Historical Club, 15; St. Anthony's Club, 15; Little Folks Club, 23; Kenney Junior Club, 16; Library Orchestra, 13.

The Rossi Dramatic Club membership is made up of boys in high school and a few who have gone to work. The boys study and present for the most part light farces although at an exhibition of the clubs last year "The Tea Party" scene from Abraham Lincoln was given.

The City Historical Club's membership is made up of little girls in the 6th and 7th grades, who last year studied about the Pilgrims and took trips to historical places around Boston. This year they are studying a very modified form of "America's making," dressing paper dolls in the costumes of each country that has contributed towards its making.

St. Anthony's Club is a travel club. Imaginary trips are made to different countries and compositions are read at the meetings. Its membership is made up of boys in the 8th grade and junior high.

Little Folks Club is made up of very small girls under Miss Nazzaro's direction. Fairy plays are given and children's games played at the meetings.

The Kenney Juniors are bright young boys who have formed their club for the purpose of debating. They also have organized a basketball team and have the privilege of using the court at the North Bennet Industrial School.

The Library Orchestra needs no explanation. The boys have improved greatly in the past year and deserve much credit.

A very successful exhibition of all the Library clubs was given at the Michael Angelo School Center last June. The children in the clubs appreciate the privilege of the club room and very seldom is there an absentee.

#### EAST BOSTON BRANCH.

The loss of 891 in the books issued through Central is the natural result following the placing of large numbers of new and attractive volumes on the shelves.

The reference work varies each year with school methods. Today it is the junior high and the project method; tomorrow it will be something else. With each change we begin our search for new material.

#### ROXBURY CROSSING READING ROOM.

A writer who uses the library daily in her work complimented us on the splendid collection of reference books that she found on the shelves. She had used many branches of different libraries, but the reference collections were inadequate.

#### CITY POINT READING ROOM.

Central circulation during the year 1921-1922 represented 12,170 volumes received, with a percentage of 55% unsuccessful cards. The current year 1921-1922 shows a Central circulation of 12,800 volumes received or an increase of 53 over what seemed in the year past to have been a maximum Central issue.

Thus an analysis of the situation seems to indicate that a relatively free and unrestricted Central supply operates as a compensation for the reading room's inadequacy in serving a public whose diversified need is of a sort calculated to strain the resources of a typical reading room collection of books.

There is a demand for new titles, new authors, new points of view; — a demand which through the Central issue is so fully supplied that even our fiction fanatics cannot complain that they do not get their share of Curwood, Galsworthy, Grey or Oppenheim while such delectable literary commodities as "Main Street" and "If winter comes" gradually meet the incessant demand.

Out of a population composed of Americans, Armenians, Italians, Lithuanians, Poles and Czecho-Slovaks — diversification of taste is to be expected. "A" wants Paine's "Age of Reason," — "B" desires the "Lives of the Saints," — "C" needs a book on Americanization Civics, — "D" must have either Wells' "Outline History of the World" or Van Loon's "Story of Mankind."

Interesting requests pour in from the schools; picture deposits representing winter scenes and sports; illustrations of knights in armor; their steeds and crests; requests for dramatizations of school classics, fairy tales and rounds.

Pageants are now the mode. At present we are looking up pictorial matter to aid in the characterization of "Water," which is to be personified in a pageant connected with the Good Health Campaign conducted under the auspices of the local District Nursing Association Drive for funds.

Work with the Chamber of Commerce in connection with Americanization still progresses. Miss Agnes Morris, a local pioneer in this field, has been appointed secretary. Her work has had its reaction in increasing registration of adult Italians embarked towards the goal of citizenship.

#### PARKER HILL READING ROOM.

Our 23 magazines and 3 newspapers are undoubtedly a source of great pleasure and advantage to our patrons. Many times they are the only available sources of acquiring information on some current event or biography of present interest. They are indispensable to that class of readers who are anxious to know something, but not too much, about everything.

#### FANEUIL READING ROOM.

Evidence from all sides shows that this district is fast becoming a cosmopolitan one. This is noted as one glances about at the people gathered here of an evening eagerly scanning the magazines and papers. There are workers of all kinds among them, engineers, clerks, salesmen, mechanics, electricians and also professional people. The races represented here include besides Americans, Jews, Armenians, Scotch, French, Italian, and Belgian. I cite this fact as, up to a few years ago, our patrons were chiefly Americans with the exception of a few Jewish families. These foreigners are mostly of the better class, men in business either here or in the city who have been in the country for some time, long enough to have bettered their condition. We have only a few uneducated ones who have need of the "English for Foreigners" books.

#### CHIEFS OF DEPARTMENTS AND LIBRARIANS OF BRANCHES AND READING-ROOMS.

As at present organized, the various departments of the Library and the branches and reading-rooms are in charge of the following persons:

Otto Fleischner, Assistant Librarian.

Samuel A. Chevalier, Chief of Catalogue Department.

William G. T. Roffe, in charge of Shelf Department.

Theodosia E. Macurdy, Chief of Ordering Department.

Frank H. Chase, Custodian of Bates Hall Reference Department.

Pierce E. Buckley, Custodian of Bates Hall Centre Desk, Patent and Newspaper Departments.

Frederic Serex, in charge of Newspaper Room.



William J. Ennis, in charge of Patent Room.  
 Winthrop H. Chenery, Chief of Special Libraries Department.  
 Walter Rowlands, in charge of Fine Arts Division.  
 George S. Maynard, in charge of Technical Division.  
 Barbara Duncan, in charge of Allen A. Brown Music Room.  
 Francis J. Hannigan, Custodian of Periodical Room.  
 Frank C. Blaisdell, Chief of Issue Department.  
 Edith Guerrier, Supervisor of Circulation.  
 Langdon L. Ward, Supervisor of Branches.  
 Alice V. Stevens, in charge of Branch Deposit Collection and Daily Issue.  
 Marian A. McCarthy, in charge of Branch Binding.  
 Alice M. Jordan, Supervisor of Work with Children.  
 Mary C. Toy, Children's Librarian, Central Library.  
 A. Frances Rogers, Chief of Registration Department.  
 Horace L. Wheeler, in charge of Statistical Department.  
 Mary H. Rollins, acting Editor of Publications.  
 Francis Watts Lee, Chief of Printing Department.  
 James W. Kenney, Chief of Bindery Department.  
 Henry Niederauer, Chief of Engineer and Janitor Department.  
 Marian W. Brackett, Librarian of Brighton Branch.  
 Katherine S. Rogan, Librarian of Charlestown Branch.  
 Elizabeth P. Ross, Librarian of Codman Square Branch.  
 Elizabeth T. Reed, Librarian of Dorchester Branch.  
 Laura M. Cross, Librarian of East Boston Branch.  
 Elizabeth Ainsworth, Librarian of Hyde Park Branch.  
 Mary P. Swain, Librarian of Jamaica Plain Branch.  
 Isabel E. Wetherald, Librarian of Mt. Bowdoin Branch.  
 Mary F. Curley, acting Librarian of North End Branch; Josephine E.  
 Kenney, Librarian, on leave of absence.  
 Grace L. Murray, Librarian of Roslindale Branch.  
 Helen M. Bell, Librarian of Roxbury Branch.  
 M. Florence Cuffin, Librarian of South Boston Branch.  
 Margaret A. Sheridan, Librarian of South End Branch.  
 Mary F. Kelley, Librarian of Upham's Corner Branch.  
 Beatrice C. Maguire, Librarian of Warren Street Branch.  
 Florence M. Bethune, Librarian of West End Branch.  
 Carrie L. Morse, Librarian of West Roxbury Branch.  
 Mary A. Hill, Librarian of Lower Mills Reading Room.  
 Emma D. Capewell, Librarian of Mattapan Reading Room.  
 Beatrice M. Flanagan, Librarian of Neponset Reading Room.  
 Katherine F. Muldoon, Librarian of Allston Reading Room.  
 Margaret H. Reid, Librarian of Mt. Pleasant Reading Room.  
 Fanny Goldstein, Librarian of Tyler Street Reading Room.  
 Katrina M. Sather, Librarian of Roxbury Crossing Reading Room.  
 Edith R. Nickerson, Librarian of Boylston Station Reading Room.



**Edith F. Pendleton, Librarian of Andrew Square Reading Room.**  
**Catherine F. Flannery, Librarian of Orient Heights Reading Room.**  
**Alice L. Murphy, Librarian of City Point Reading Room.**  
**Mary M. Sullivan, Librarian of Parker Hill Reading Room.**  
**Gertrude L. Connell, Librarian of Faneuil Reading Room.**  
**Mathilde de Bernardi, Librarian of Jeffries Point Reading Room.**

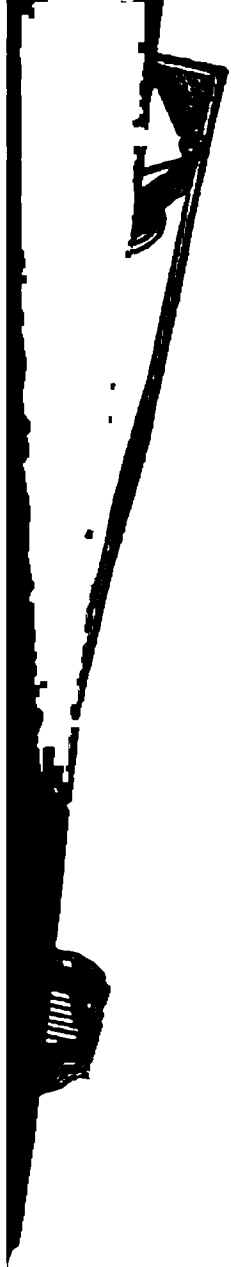
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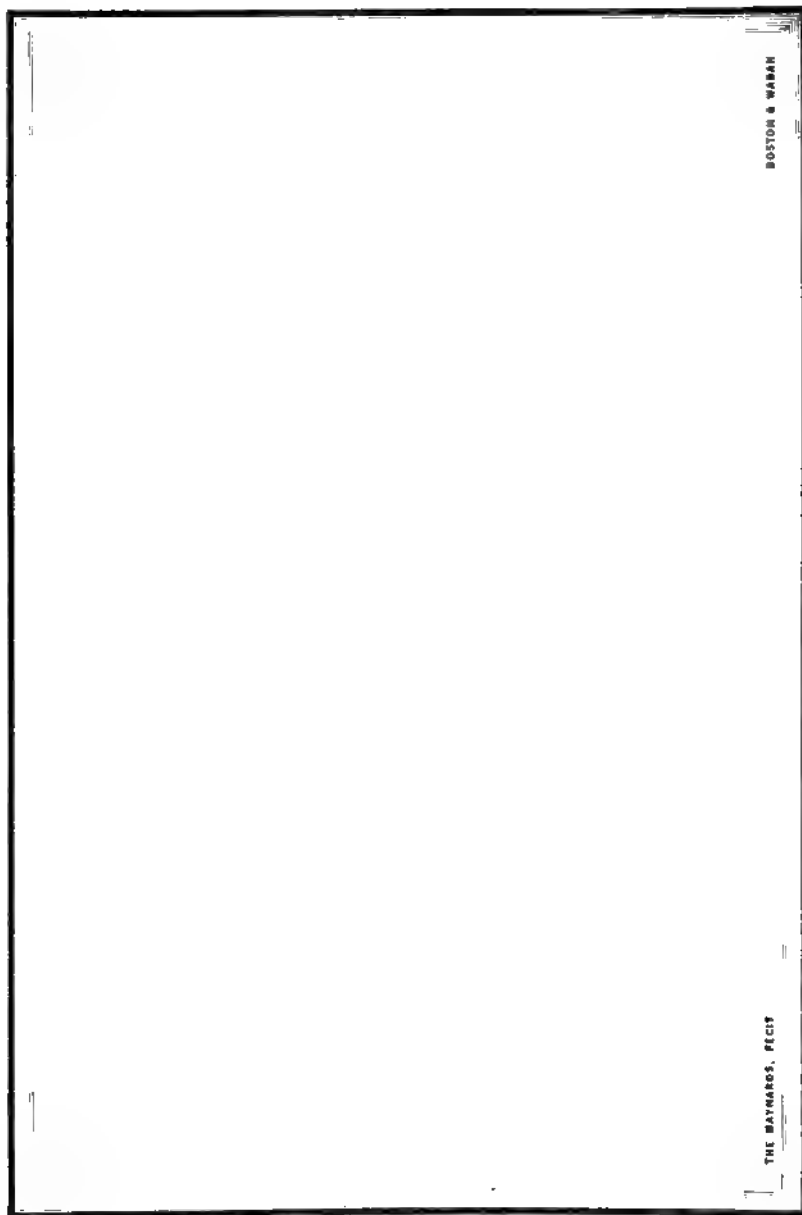












CENTRAL LIBRARY BUILDING: THE PLATFORM.

SEVENTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
TRUSTEES  
OF THE  
PUBLIC LIBRARY  
OF THE  
CITY OF BOSTON  
1922-1923

BOSTON  
PUBLISHED BY THE TRUSTEES  
1923

**THE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON: PRINTING DEPARTMENT.**  
**MP6; 6.23.23; 25C.**

**TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**ON FEBRUARY 1, 1923.**

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**ALEXANDER MANN, *President.***

**Term expires April 30, 1925.**

**Resigned January 22, 1923.**

**GUY W. CURRIER.**

**Term expires April 30, 1923.**

**MICHAEL J. MURRAY.**

**Term expires April 30, 1926.**

**LOUIS E. KIRSTEIN.**

**Term expires April 30, 1924.**

**ARTHUR T. CONNOLLY.**

**Term expires April 30, 1927.**

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**LIBRARIAN.**

**CHARLES F. D. BELDEN.**

## ORGANIZATION OF THE LIBRARY DEPARTMENT.

The Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, organized in 1852, are now incorporated under the provisions of Chapter 114, of the Acts of 1878, as amended. The Board for 1852 was a preliminary organization; that for 1853 made the first annual report. At first the Board consisted of one alderman and one common-councilman and five citizens at large, until 1867, when a revised ordinance made it to consist of one alderman, two common-councilmen and six citizens at large, two of whom retired, unless re-elected each year, while the members from the City Council were elected yearly. In 1878 the organization of the Board was changed to include one alderman, one councilman, and five citizens at large, as before 1867; and in 1885, by the provisions of the amended city charter, the representation of the City Government upon the Board by an alderman and a councilman was abolished, leaving the Board as at present, consisting of five citizens at large, appointed by the Mayor, for five-year terms, the term of one member expiring each year. The following citizens at large have been members of the Board since its organization in 1852:

ABBOTT, SAMUEL APPLETON BROWNE, A.M., 1879-95.  
APPLETON, THOMAS GOLD, A.M., 1852-56.  
BENTON, JOSIAH HENRY, LL.D., 1894-1917.  
BIGELOW, JOHN PRESCOTT, A.M., 1852-68.  
BOWDITCH, HENRY INGERSOLL, M.D., 1865-67.  
BOWDITCH, HENRY PICKERING, M.D., 1894-1902.  
BOYLE, THOMAS FRANCIS, 1902-12.  
BRAMAN, JARVIS DWIGHT, 1869-72.  
BRETT, JOHN ANDREW, LL.B., 1912-16.  
CARR, SAMUEL, 1895-96; 1908-22.  
CHASE, GEORGE BIGELOW, A.M., 1876-85.  
CLARKE, JAMES FREEMAN, D.D., 1879-88.  
COAKLEY, DANIEL HENRY, 1917-19.  
CONNOLLY, ARTHUR THEODORE, 1916-  
CURRIER, GUY WILBUR, 1922-  
CURTIS, DANIEL SARGENT, A.M., 1873-75.  
DE NORMANDIE, JAMES, D.D., 1895-1908.  
DWIGHT, THOMAS, M.D., 1899-1908.  
EVERETT, EDWARD, LL.D., 1852-64.  
FROTHINGHAM, RICHARD, LL.D., 1875-79.  
GREEN, SAMUEL ABBOTT, M.D., 1868-78.  
GREENOUGH, WILLIAM WHITWELL, 1856-88.  
HAYNES, HENRY WILLIAMSON, A.M., 1880-94.  
HILLIARD, GEORGE STILLMAN, LL.D., 1872-75; 76-77.  
KENNEY, WILLIAM FRANCIS, A.M., 1908-1921.  
KIRSTEIN, LOUIS EDWARD, 1919-  
LEWIS, WESTON, 1868-79.  
LEWIS, WINSLOW, M.D., 1867.  
LINCOLN, SOLOMON, A.M., 1897-1907.

MANN, ALEXANDER, D.D., 1908-1923.  
 MORTON, ELLIS WESLEY, 1870-73.  
 MURRAY, MICHAEL JOSEPH, LL.B., 1921-  
 PIERCE, PHINEAS, 1888-94.  
 PRINCE, FREDERICK OCTAVIUS, A.M., 1888-99.  
 PUTNAM, GEORGE, D.D., 1868-77.  
 RICHARDS, WILLIAM REUBEN, A.M., 1889-95.  
 SHURTLEFF, NATHANIEL BRADSTREET, LL.D., 1852-68.  
 THOMAS, BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, LL.D., 1877-78.  
 TICKNOR, GEORGE, LL.D., 1852-66.  
 WALKER, FRANCIS AMASA, LL.D., 1896.  
 WHIPPLE, EDWIN PERCY, A.M., 1867-70.  
 WHITMORE, WILLIAM HENRY, A.M., 1885-88.  
 WINSOR, JUSTIN, LL.D., 1867-68.

The HON. EDWARD EVERETT was President of the Board from 1852 to 1864; GEORGE TICKNOR, in 1865; WILLIAM W. GREENOUGH, from 1866 to April, 1888; PROF. HENRY W. HAYNES, from May 7, 1888, to May 12, 1888; SAMUEL A. B. ABBOTT, May 12, 1888, to April 30, 1895; HON. F. O. PRINCE, October 8, 1895, to May 8, 1899; SOLOMON LINCOLN, May 12, 1899, to October 15, 1907; REV. JAMES DE NORMANDIE, January 31, 1908, to May 8, 1908; JOSIAH H. BENTON, May 8, 1908, to February 6, 1917; WILLIAM F. KENNEY, February 13, 1917, to May 7, 1920; REV. ALEXANDER MANN, May 7, 1920, to January 22, 1923.

## LIBRARIANS.

(From 1858 to 1877, the chief executive officer was entitled Superintendent.)

CAPEN, EDWARD, *Librarian*, May 13, 1852 - December 16, 1874.  
 JEWETT, CHARLES C., *Superintendent*, 1858 - January 9, 1868.  
 WINSOR, JUSTIN, LL.D., *Superintendent*, February 25, 1868 - September 30, 1877.  
 GREEN, SAMUEL A., M.D., *Trustee, Acting Librarian*, October 1, 1877 - September 30, 1878.  
 CHAMBERLAIN, MELLEN, LL.D., *Librarian*, October 1, 1878 - September 30, 1890.  
 DWIGHT, THEODORE F., *Librarian*, April 13, 1892 - April 30, 1894.  
 PUTNAM, HERBERT, LL.D., *Librarian*, February 11, 1895 - April 30, 1899.  
 WHITNEY, JAMES L., A.M., *Acting Librarian*, March 31, 1899 - December 21, 1899; *Librarian*, December 22, 1899 - January 31, 1903.  
 WADLIN, HORACE G., LITT.D., *Librarian*, February 1, 1903 - March 15, 1917; *Acting Librarian*, March 15, 1917 - June 15, 1917.  
 BELDEN, CHARLES F. D., LL.B., *Librarian*, since March 15, 1917.

## LIBRARY SYSTEM, FEBRUARY 1, 1923.

DEPARTMENTS.	OPENED.
† Central Library, Copley Sq. . . . .	May 2, 1854
† East Boston Branch, 276-282 Meridian St. . . . .	Jan. 28, 1871
§ South Boston Branch, 372 Broadway . . . . .	May 1, 1872
Roxbury Branch, 46 Millmont St. . . . .	July, 1873
† Charlestown Branch, Monument Sq. . . . .	* Jan., 1874
† Brighton Branch, Academy Hill Rd. . . . .	* Jan., 1874
‡ Dorchester Branch, Arcadia, cor. Adams St. . . . .	Jan. 25, 1874
‡ South End Branch, Shawmut Ave. and West Brookline St. . . . .	Aug., 1877
† Jamaica Plain Branch, Sedgwick, cor. South St. . . . .	Sept., 1877
‡ West Roxbury Branch, Centre, near Mt. Vernon St. . . . .	* Jan. 6, 1880
† West End Branch, Cambridge, cor. Lynde St. . . . .	Feb. 1, 1896
‡ Upham's Corner Branch, Columbia Rd., cor. Bird St. . . . .	Mar. 16, 1896
† Hyde Park Branch, Harvard Ave., cor. Winthrop St. . . . .	* Jan. 1, 1912
† North End Branch, 3A North Bennet St. . . . .	Feb. 27, 1913
‡ Codman Square Branch, Washington, cor. Norfolk St. . . . .	* Nov. 1, 1914
‡ Roslindale Branch, Washington, cor. Ashland St. . . . .	* Sept. 1, 1919
§ Warren Street Branch, 392 Warren St. . . . .	* Sept. 1, 1919
§ Mount Bowdoin Branch, Washington, cor. Eldon St. . . . .	* Feb. 1, 1922
§ Station A. Lower Mills Reading Room, Washington St. . . . .	June 7, 1875
§ " D. Mattapan Reading Room, 7 Babson St. . . . .	Dec. 27, 1881
§ " E. Neponset Reading Room, 362 Neponset Ave. . . . .	Jan. 1, 1883
§ " G. Allston Reading Room, 138 Brighton Ave. . . . .	Mar. 11, 1889
‡ " N. Mt. Pleasant Reading Room, Vine, cor. Dudley St. . . . .	Apr. 29, 1892
‡ " P. Tyler Street Reading Room, Tyler, cor. Oak St. . . . .	Jan. 16, 1896
§ " S. Roxbury Crossing Reading Room, 208 Ruggles St. . . . .	Jan. 18, 1897
§ " T. Boylston Station Reading Room, The Lamartine, De- pot Sq. . . . .	Nov. 1, 1897
§ " Y. Andrew Square Reading Room, 396 Dorchester St. . . . .	Mar. 5, 1914
§ " Z. Orient Heights Reading Room, 1030 Bennington St. . . . .	June 25, 1901
‡ " 23. City Point Reading Room, Municipal Bldg., Broadway . . . . .	July 18, 1906
§ " 24. Parker Hill Reading Room, 1518 Tremont St. . . . .	July 15, 1907
† " 25. Faneuil Reading Room, 100 Brooks St. . . . .	Mar. 4, 1914
§ " 26. Jeffries Point Reading Room, 195 Webster St. . . . .	Oct. 15, 1921

|| In the case of the Central Library and some of the branches and stations the opening was in a different location from that now occupied. \* As a branch. † In building owned by City, and exclusively devoted to library uses. ‡ In City building, in part devoted to other municipal uses. § Occupies rented rooms. || The lessee of the Fellowes Athenæum, a private library association.

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TO HIS HONOR, JAMES M. CURLEY,  
*Mayor of the City of Boston.*

SIR: — The Board of Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston submits herewith the seventy-first annual report of the progress of the Institution for the year ending January 31, 1923.

#### ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD.

The Board of Trustees organized for the year on May 12, 1922, by the election of the Reverend Alexander Mann, D.D., as President, Mr. Samuel Carr, Vice President, and Miss Della Jean Deery, Clerk. Mr. Guy W. Carrier was appointed a trustee for the term ending April 30, 1923, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Samuel Carr. The Rt. Rev. Msgr. Arthur T. Connolly was reappointed a trustee for the term ending April 30, 1927.

The death of Mr. Samuel Carr on May 29, 1922, ended a career of long and faithful service on this Board. At a meeting on June 23, 1922, the Trustees placed upon their records the following resolution:

By the death of Mr. Samuel Carr, May 29, 1922, the Board of Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston has lost its oldest member. Mr. Carr was appointed a trustee June 24, 1895, to fill out the unexpired term of Mr. S. A. B. Abbott who had resigned. He served until April 30, 1896, and in June of that year the Trustees placed upon record the following resolution:

"As Mr. Samuel Carr has ceased to be a Trustee of the Public Library by reason of the expiration of his term of office, his associates on the Board desire to express and record their appreciation of his valuable services. It is therefore

"*Resolved*, That Mr. Carr, by his faithful and successful discharge of his official duties, is entitled to the gratitude of the citizens and friends of the Library.

"Always manifesting deep interest in his trust, he was constant in attending our meetings and ready at all times to perform his share of the

work. To the many important matters specially referred to his consideration he gave faithful attention, exhibiting therein excellent judgment and great executive ability.

"His thorough knowledge of business principles and methods enabled him to render valuable assistance to the Board, and made his work useful and beneficial.

*"Resolved, That the Trustees gratefully accord to him the freedom of the alcoves, with the customary privileges."*

Mr. Carr was again appointed a trustee of the Library May 1, 1908, and served continuously from that date to the time of his death. In February, 1917, he was elected Vice President which office he continued to hold through the remainder of his career. His term of service therefore extended over twenty-seven years, almost the lifetime of a generation.

The City which can command a service like this of a man, prominent in the financial and business world, burdened with many responsibilities, who gladly gave to the work of the Library the benefit of his business ability and wise judgment, may indeed count itself fortunate. To his fellow trustees the death of Mr. Carr means not only a loss to the City, but a personal sorrow.

Always courteous and considerate, singularly modest and self-effacing, it is not too much to say that Mr. Carr through his long term of service endeared himself to every member of the Board. With all his gentleness of manner and speech there was also a quiet courage in standing always for what he felt to be the highest interests of the Library. He has left to the City which he loved a fine example of unselfish and efficient service and to his friends of the Library Board a happy memory which they will ever cherish.

*Resolved, That this minute be placed upon our records and that a copy be sent to Mrs. Carr and also to the press.*

On October 20, 1922, the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Arthur T. Connolly was elected Vice President of the Board to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Samuel Carr.

Later in the year the Board was faced with another loss in the resignation of the Reverend Alexander Mann, D.D., its President, who had been elected Bishop of the Diocese of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Dr. Mann was first appointed a trustee of the Library by Mayor George A. Hibbard on May 25, 1908, to fill out the unexpired term of the Reverend James DeNormandie, D.D., who had resigned, the term ending on April 30, 1910. He was reappointed by Mayor James M. Curley, and again reappointed by Mayor Andrew J. Peters, for a term ending April 30, 1925. Since May 20, 1920, Dr. Mann has been

President of the Board. The Trustees have placed upon their records the following resolution relative to Bishop Mann's retirement:

The resignation of the Reverend Alexander Mann, D.D., as a trustee of the Boston Public Library, ends fourteen years of generous service to the city he loved so well. He was for several years President of this Board. His departure from us supplies a fitting moment in which to record our appreciation of the value of his diligent and faithful work as a member of this Board.

Dr. Mann was a loyal associate, prominent in the life of the community, interested in public affairs, and intensely and assiduously devoted to all matters that related to the welfare of the Boston Public Library, which he regarded as one of the city's finest jewels. We shall ever fondly remember his frank sincerity, his charming manner and the strength of character which made up his splendid personality.

*Voted*, that Bishop Mann be accorded the freedom of the alcoves, and that this expression be placed upon the records of the Board, and a copy thereof transmitted to Bishop Mann, with assurances of our most distinguished consideration and respect.

#### RECEIPTS OF THE LIBRARY.

The money necessary for the maintenance of the Library comes from the city of Boston by annual and special appropriations, as well as the unexpended balance and income from Trust Funds, which at the close of the year totalled \$66,630.50.

Other sources of income are receipts from fines, from sales of catalogues, commissions on telephone stations in the Library, sale of waste paper, payments for lost books, and interest on bank deposits, which are paid into the City Treasury for general municipal purposes, and which for the past year amounted to \$14,633.61.

#### BRANCHES AND READING ROOMS.

The New West Roxbury Branch Library building was dedicated on Monday, April 17, 1922. This attractive building, for which an appropriation of \$61,000 was made in 1921, is a notable addition to the group of library buildings owned by the City.

The South End Branch will soon be moved to its new quarters

in the Municipal Building just completed at the corner of West Brookline Street and Shawmut Avenue.

South Boston is still in need of a new and separate library building; the Trustees have called attention to this need for many years. This Branch still occupies quarters in the second story of a bank building.

Requests for the establishment of new reading rooms are received from time to time, but the most immediate need for library extension is the establishment of a business branch, which has been repeatedly urged by the Examining Committee and the Trustees.

#### ESTIMATES 1923-1924.

The estimates for the maintenance of the Library for the coming year, presented in a Budget already submitted for your consideration, amount to \$849,716, of which \$580,000 is for personal service and \$269,716 for general maintenance.

#### BOSTON RETIREMENT PENSION.

During the past year the enactment by the Massachusetts Legislature of a law known as the Pension Bill, relative to the retirement of certain employees of the City of Boston, was accepted by the City Government. The passage of such legislation has been urged by this Board for more than a dozen years. At a meeting of the Board held on June 23, 1922, the following action was taken concerning this piece of legislation:

*Resolved*, That in the opinion of the Board of Trustees and of the Librarian of the Public Library of the City of Boston the Pension Bill recently enacted by the Great and General Court of the Commonwealth, is a wise, constructive and forward looking piece of legislation possessing features of mutual benefit to the city and its employees; and, therefore, the members of the Board and the Librarian on behalf of the employees of the Public Library earnestly express their hope that it will receive the favorable consideration of His Honor the Mayor and the members of the City Council.

LANGDON L. WARD.

The service of the Library suffered a severe loss in the death of Mr. Langdon L. Ward on August 15, 1922. Mr. Ward

had been connected with the Library in important work for just over a quarter of a century. At a meeting of the Trustees on October 6, 1922, the following resolution was adopted in fond remembrance of his devoted service:

*Resolved*, That the members of the Board of Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston place on record their appreciation of the twenty-six years of faithful service given by the late Landgdon L. Ward.

Entering the employ of the Library in 1896 as Custodian of the Broadway Extension Reading Room, Mr. Ward was appointed Supervisor of Branches in 1898, the position which he held at the time of his death. During the years of his employment the branch system was greatly enlarged and popularized. His patience, enthusiasm, fairness and learning brought him the respect and goodwill of his colleagues throughout the Library Department. His passing marks the close of a long and efficient term of service of a public servant of the City of Boston.

#### TABLE OF TRUST FUNDS.

A detailed statement of these funds, and the income therefrom, is contained in the report of the City Auditor, but a condensed statement of them is as follows:

FUND.	AMOUNT.	RESTRICTIONS OF GIFT.
Artz . . .	\$ 10,000.00	For the purchase of valuable and rare editions of the writings, either in verse or prose, of American and of foreign authors, "to be known as the Longfellow Memorial Collection."
Bates . . .	50,000.00	To buy "books of permanent value."
Bigelow . . .	1,000.00	Purchase of books.
Billings . . .	100,000.00	For the purchase of books.
Bowditch . . .	10,000.00	For "the purchase of books of permanent value and authority in mathematics and astronomy," to be added to the Bowditch Collection.
Bradlee . . .	1,000.00	Unrestricted.
Center . . .	39,543.14	Unrestricted.
"Children's" (under Benton Will) . . .	100,000.00	For the purchase of books for the use of the young. Available only in years when the City appropriates for the maintenance of the Library at least 3% of the amount available for department expenses from taxes and income in said City.
Clement . . .	2,000.00	For the purchase of books.
Codman . . .	2,854.41	For the purchase of books upon landscape gardening.
Cutter . . .	4,100.00	For the purchase of books and for binding for the Abram E. Cutter Collection.
Carried forward	\$320,497.55	

<i>Brought forward</i>	\$320,497.55	
"Elizabeth" (under Matchett Will) .	25,000.00	For the purchase of books of "permanent value and authority."
Ford . . . .	6,000.00	Unrestricted.
Franklin Club .	1,000.00	Books of permanent value, preferably books on government and political economy.
Green . . . .	2,000.00	Books relating to American history.
Charlotte Harris .	10,000.00	Books for Charlestown Branch, published before 1850.
Thomas B. Harris .	1,000.00	For benefit of the Charlestown Branch.
Hyde . . . .	3,632.40	Unrestricted.
Knapp . . . .	10,000.00	For the purchase of books.
Abbott Lawrence .	10,000.00	Books having a permanent value.
Edward Lawrence .	500.00	"To hold and apply the income and so much of the principal as they [the Trustees] may choose to the purchase of special books of reference to be kept and used only at the Charlestown Branch of said Public Library."
Lewis . . . .	5,000.00	For the purchase of old and rare books to be added to the John A. Lewis library.
Loring . . . .	500.00	Memorial Fund, from the income of which books are to be bought for the West End Branch.
Mead . . . .	2,500.00	Unrestricted.
O'Reilly . . . .	1,000.00	From the Papyrus Club for the purchase of books as a memorial of John Boyle O'Reilly.
Phillips . . . .	30,000.00	"To the maintenance of a free public library." "Purchase of books."
Pierce . . . .	5,000.00	"Books of permanent value for the Bates Hall."
Pratt . . . .	500.00	For the benefit of the Dorchester Branch.
Scholfield . . .	61,800.00	To be used for books of permanent value.
Sewall . . . .	25,000.00	For the purchase of books.
Skinner . . . .	51,732.14	Unrestricted.
South Boston . .	100.00	For benefit of the South Boston Branch.
Ticknor . . . .	4,000.00	Books in Spanish and Portuguese, five years old in some one edition.
Todd . . . .	50,000.00	The income to be expended annually for current newspapers of this and other countries.
Townsend . . . .	4,000.00	Books five years old in some one edition.
Treadwell . . . .	13,987.69	Unrestricted.
Tufts . . . .	10,131.77	For the benefit of the Charlestown Branch.
Twentieth Regiment	5,000.00	"For the purchase of books of a military and patriotic character, to be placed in the alcove appropriated as a Memorial of the Twentieth Regiment."
Wales . . . .	5,000.00	For the purchase of books.
Alice L. Whitney .	5,000.00	For the benefit of sick and needy employees and the purchase of books.
James L. Whitney .	7,337.68	For books and manuscripts.
Wilson . . . .	1,000.00	For the purchase of books.
Total . . . .	<u>\$678,219.23</u>	

## EXAMINING COMMITTEE.

The Trustees call attention to the Report of the Examining Committee which is appended hereto and included, as required by the city ordinance, as a part of this report. Many of the suggestions and recommendations embodied in the study of the Examining Committee have the sympathy and general approval of the Board. The carrying out of certain of the recommendations, however, would necessarily require a larger appropriation than can at present be expected. Those who served as members of the Examining Committee for the fiscal year are as follows:

Mr. Henry Abrahams.  
Miss Esther G. Barrows.  
Paul F. Butler, M.D.  
Mr. Francis M. Carroll.  
Mrs. William H. Devine.  
Miss Rosanna M. Dowd.  
Mr. Walter F. Downey.  
Mrs. Carl Dreyfus.  
Mr. Henry Gideon.  
Mr. Henry E. Hammond.

Miss Mary E. T. Healy.  
Mr. Victor A. Heath.  
Miss Heloise E. Hersey.  
Hubert T. Holland, M.D.  
Mr. Vincent A. Keenan.  
William Jason Mixter, M.D.  
Mr. Cornelius A. Parker.  
Rev. W. Dewees Roberts.  
Prof. Frank Vogel.  
Mr. Robert F. Waul.

## PRIVATE AID FOR THE LIBRARY.

The Public Library is the only source to which the great masses must turn for their reading. An examination of the Table of Trust Funds printed as a part of this report will show how small is the possible income to be derived therefrom. The last fiscal year it amounted to \$23,523.14. It will be noted that there are only eight funds in excess of \$25,000. Attention may well be called to the fact that the income from one of the two largest funds of \$100,000 each has not been available for any year since its receipt. This is the "Children's Fund" under the will of the late Josiah H. Benton, the income of which is available only in years when Boston appropriates for the maintenance of the Library at least 3 per cent of the amount available for



department expenses from taxes and income in the said city. In the years when such amount is not appropriated, the income goes to the poor of the City of Boston.

For many years this Institution has held a high position among the libraries of the country because of its scholarly collections, many of them unique, and in some respects unexcelled. It is apparent, however, with the development of the Library and the extension of its service through branches, reading rooms and deposit stations in all sections of the municipality, the growing and reasonable demands for the more popular books of both fiction and non-fiction, that the financial burden entailed cannot be met by the city alone, generous as it has been in the past. Indeed, the time has come when the Library either must lose its scholarly standing or must fail to serve the great reading public in its call for recreational reading and the less solid books of non-fiction. Without an increased income from trust funds it will soon be quite out of the question to round out and maintain collections that have been in the past of so great service to scholars and research students not only in Boston and vicinity, but throughout the world. Other big cities can boast of large gifts of money made to their libraries by private individuals. On this score Boston, holding a distinguished place for its culture among American cities, has comparatively little in the way of memory with which to thrill its citizens with civic pride. What a city gives for the conduct of its public library indicates to the outside world its interest in things aside from the mere physical necessities of its people. The Trustees urge, therefore, upon private citizens who have been able to provide splendidly equipped home libraries for their own families, the crying need of Boston's thousands who hunger for good reading, denied them because unable to provide such for themselves, and the great service they may render their fellow citizens and posterity by private benefactions, the income from which will effectively help meet the ever increasing demand upon the Central Library and its agencies. Surely, Boston with its traditional pride needs but to know the situation in which this great Library now finds itself, in order to come generously to the rescue.

## CONCLUSION.

The Board wishes, in conclusion, to express its warm appreciation of the Librarian, the Assistant Librarian, and the whole corps of faithful, intelligent and efficient workers who toil incessantly under conditions not always encouraging, to preserve the high place which the Boston Public Library has always held among similar institutions throughout the country. Of their splendid spirit of cooperation, without which our efforts must signally fail, we cannot speak too highly.

ALEXANDER MANN,  
ARTHUR T. CONNOLLY,  
LOUIS E. KIRSTEIN,  
MICHAEL J. MURRAY,  
GUY W. CURRIER.

## BALANCE SHEET, RECEIPTS AND

DR.

## CENTRAL LIBRARY AND BRANCHES:

## To expenditures for

Permanent employees (exclusive of Printing and Bindery Departments)	.	.	.	.	.	.	\$361,781.74
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Temporary employees	.	.	.	.	.	.	100,088.44
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\$461,870.18

## Service other than personal:

Contract work	.	.	.	.	.	.	\$ 19.39
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Postage	.	.	.	.	.	.	1,769.01
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Transportation of persons	.	.	.	.	.	.	254.04
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Cartage and freight	.	.	.	.	.	.	12,119.13
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Light and power	.	.	.	.	.	.	9,924.40
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Rent	.	.	.	.	.	.	16,945.19
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Premium on surety bond	.	.	.	.	.	.	5.00
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Communication	.	.	.	.	.	.	1,246.73
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Cleaning, towels, etc.	.	.	.	.	.	.	882.91
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Removal of snow	.	.	.	.	.	.	650.10
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Examinations	.	.	.	.	.	.	115.50
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Expert and architect	.	.	.	.	.	.	400.00
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Fees	.	.	.	.	.	.	2.40
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Medical	.	.	.	.	.	.	36.00
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Extermination of insects	.	.	.	.	.	.	6.00
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Boiler inspection	.	.	.	.	.	.	36.00
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General plant repairs	.	.	.	.	.	.	5,495.60
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49,907.40

## To expenditures for equipment:

Furniture	.	.	.	.	.	.	\$ 1,930.67
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Office	.	.	.	.	.	.	549.16
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## Books:

City appropriation	.	.	.	.	.	\$91,464.12
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Trust funds income	.	.	.	.	.	19,615.44
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111,079.76

## Newspapers:

Todd fund income	.	.	.	.	.	\$1,938.03
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Treadwell fund income	.	.	.	.	.	329.60
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2,267.63

Periodicals	.	.	.	.	.	9,568.68
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Tools and instruments	.	.	.	.	.	737.17
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General plant equipment	.	.	.	.	.	578.84
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126,711.91

Carried forward	.	.	.	.	.	.
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\$638,849.49

[11]

EXPENSES, JANUARY, 31, 1923.

CR.

By CITY APPROPRIATION 1922-1923 . . . . .	\$741,993.00	
Income from Trust funds . . . . .	23,523.14	
Income from James L. Whitney Bibliographical Account . . . . .	700.00	
Interest on deposit in London . . . . .	208.72	
	<hr/>	\$766,424.86

Carried forward . . . . . 

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\$766,424.86



# EXPENSES, JANUARY, 31, 1923.

	CR.
<i>Brought forward</i> . . . . .	\$766,424.86
BY BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD FROM FEBRUARY 1, 1922:	
Trust funds income, City Treasury . . . . .	\$43,107.36
Trust Funds income on deposit in London . . . . .	15,912.22
City appropriation on deposit in London . . . . .	5,392.36
James L. Whitney Bibliographic Account . . . . .	3,860.61
Jeffries Point Reading Room . . . . .	1,817.44
	<u>70,089.99</u>

<i>Carried forward</i> . . . . .	<u>\$836,514.85</u>
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## BALANCE SHEET, RECEIPTS AND

**DR.**

<b>Brought forward . . . . .</b>	<b>\$747,992.08</b>
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**TO AMOUNT PAID INTO CITY TREASURY:**

From fines . . . . .	\$12,831.46
Sales of catalogues, bulletins and lists . . . . .	56.51
Commission on telephone stations . . . . .	457.73
Sale of waste paper . . . . .	396.24
Payments for lost books . . . . .	849.09
Money found . . . . .	13.22
Coal penalties . . . . .	29.36
	<hr/>
	14,633.61

**TO BALANCE, JANUARY 31, 1923:**

Trust funds income on deposit in London	.	.	.	\$ 9,650.18
City appropriation on deposit in London	.	.	.	4,357.00
Trust funds income balance, City Treasury	.	.	.	50,934.27
James L. Whitney Bibliographic Account	.	.	.	4,560.61
Interest on deposit in London	.	.	.	208.72
				<hr/>
				69,710.78

**Balance unexpended:**

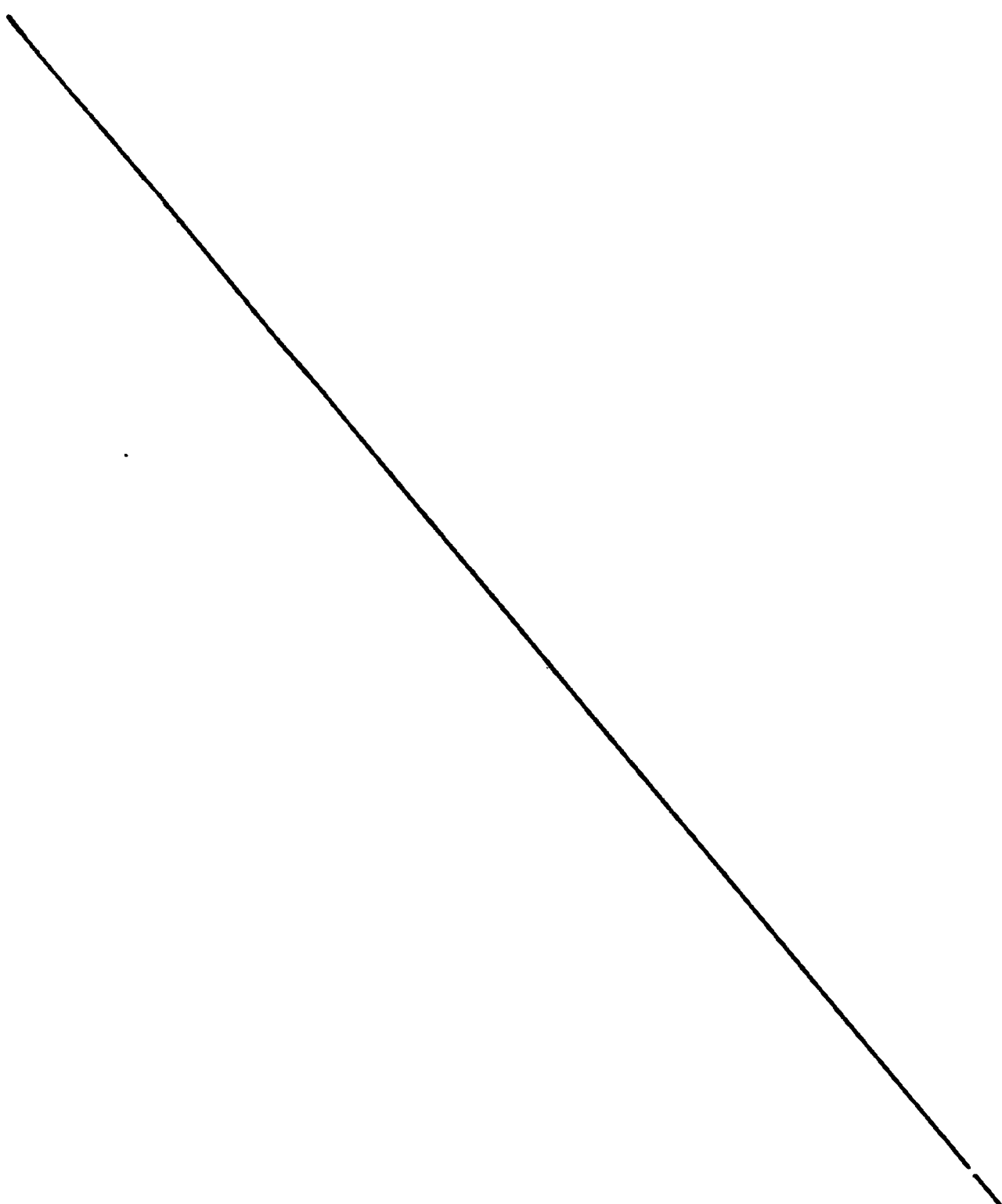
General appropriation	:	\$18,795.88	
Special appropriation (Jeffries Point Reading Room)	:	16.11	
		<u>          </u>	18,811.99

**\$851,148.46**

# EXPENSES, JANUARY, 31, 1923.

Cr.

<i>Brought forward</i> . . . . .		\$836,514.85
From fines . . . . .	\$12,831.46	
Sales of catalogues, bulletins and lists . . . . .	56.51	
Commission on telephone stations . . . . .	457.73	
Sale of waste paper . . . . .	396.24	
Payments for lost books . . . . .	849.09	
Money found . . . . .	13.22	
Coal penalties . . . . .	29.36	
	<hr/>	14,633.61



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\$851,148.46



## SPECIAL ACCOUNT 1921-1922.

Payments made to provide for the unpaid liabilities incurred  
to January 31, 1922, inclusive.

## Personal service:

Permanent employees . . . . . \$8,386.95

## Service other than personal:

Printing and Binding . . . . . 35.50  
 Transportation of persons . . . . . 35.40  
 Cartage and freight . . . . . 1,086.68  
 Light and power . . . . . 2,620.52  
 Rent, taxes and water . . . . . 1,662.50  
 Communication . . . . . 209.76  
 Cleaning . . . . . 73.71  
 Removal of snow . . . . . 39.50  
 Examinations . . . . . 10.50  
 General plant . . . . . 212.74

\$14,373.76

## Equipment:

Machinery . . . . . \$676.22  
 Furniture and fittings . . . . . 24.20  
 Tools and instruments . . . . . 80.17  
 General plant . . . . . 14.25

794.84

## Supplies:

Office . . . . . \$1,070.78  
 Food and ice . . . . . 86.70  
 Fuel . . . . . 1,794.03  
 Medical . . . . . 7.35  
 Laundry, cleaning, toilet . . . . . 131.55  
 Chemicals and disinfectants . . . . . 2.40  
 General plant . . . . . 49.96

3,142.77

## Materials:

Building . . . . . \$ 193.00  
 Electrical . . . . . 85.89  
 General plant . . . . . 1,681.45

1,960.34

\$20,271.71

# REPORT OF THE EXAMINING COMMITTEE.

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE  
CITY OF BOSTON.

*Gentlemen:*

The Examining Committee herewith respectfully submits its report, which is compiled from the reports of the sub-committees.

## ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE.

A larger appropriation for "Personal Service" is recommended in order that the salaries, especially for those members of the Library staff holding major positions, may be increased, and in order that needed additional assistants may be added to the staff of the Central Library and its branches.

The usefulness of the Library, the efficiency and economy of operation, no matter how good the plan, cannot rise higher than the intelligence and devotedness of the personnel of this department. Given an efficient, intelligent and devoted Personal Service, the Library will increase in its usefulness and it will secure the support of the public for its material needs.

The competition of offices, and more recently of schools, for the same kind of brains required for library service, has made an increase imperative, if the Library is not to lower its standards of intellectual service. The salaries of secretaries, of stenographers, of teachers, and also of librarians, in cities much smaller than Boston, are now higher than those of the Boston Public Library, and the result is that both men and women who are worthy of positions of responsibility are not entering the service.

A book appropriation equal to that of the past two years is recommended in order to meet the insistent and reasonable de-

mands of the book reading public served by the Library. In 1916, the appropriation for this purpose was \$45,000. To make possible an equal purchase in 1922, because of increased cost of books, it would be necessary to appropriate upwards of \$76,000.

Meanwhile, the circulation has increased from 2,050,238, in 1916-17, to 2,768,984, on February 1, 1922, so that the same service would require an additional increase of thirty per cent, to keep pace with the increased circulation. This would make necessary an appropriation this year of at least \$100,000 which would furnish no better supply than that furnished in 1916.

A miscellaneous appropriation, sufficiently large, in order that the proper equipment may be maintained and in order that the necessary major repairs for the Central Library and its branches may be carried out.

An addition to the Annex in order that the Cataloguing and Ordering departments may be transferred, thus releasing valuable space on the ground floor of the Central Library for public purposes.

Provision for new reading rooms, for which there is a present demand.

Some relief must be extended to the over-crowded conditions now existing in all departments, and the recommendation for the installation of the two remaining floors of steel stacks will help materially.

Relative to the addition to the Annex, a plan has been suggested of opening a book storage building, planned purely for utility at some point within a reasonable distance of the Central Library, where land values are low, but sufficiently central for convenience, to which little-used books for special uses could be transferred, and to which readers could be directed. This would release much floor space in the Central Library for use. This project is for the future, but should be borne in mind for the *early* future.

The Committee recommends that all possible influence be brought to bear by the Examining Committee and Trustees to secure the co-operation of the Boston Chamber of Commerce in establishing a Business Men's Branch in the new building.

## BOOKS AND CATALOGUES.

The Committee heartily concurs with the report made by the Committee last year, and desires to emphasize every point of last year's report which has not been acted upon, also to add that space could be gained in the catalogue end of Bates Hall if the catalogue were set into the walls, as it now is in the same room on the wall toward the reading room. This should not be costly and would give one-third more room. The Committee would also recommend that every branch reading room be equipped with electric lights, suitably placed, as eyesight is of more value to the possessor than most things.

## SPECIAL LIBRARIES.

The Committee wishes to reiterate a very pertinent criticism of the committee of last year, namely that the lighting facilities in the Art Library be improved. The poor lighting arrangements are noticeable to a casual observer, to say nothing of one who can appreciate proper light for this sort of work.

In the Music Library the ventilation is very poor and should be improved. All music and books relating to music should be collected in one room, and this might be done in the present Music Room if all the shelving space were utilized.

In the Barton-Ticknor Room another assistant is needed, as the attendant in charge has more work than one person can attend to. The alcoves in this room are cold and inhospitable.

Another suggestion, which, unfortunately, means an outlay of money, is to provide metal shelving for these valuable books; the present shelving is irregular and certainly not fireproof.

## PRINTING AND BINDING.

The conditions obtaining in both the Printing and Binding Departments are apparently unchanged from last year, excepting a greater degree of efficiency is shown by the work accomplished.

In the Printing Department the equipment is in good condition, but the Committee strongly recommends that the sum of at least \$600. be expended for the purchase of new fonts of type very

much needed in cataloguing books in foreign languages, and which were not purchased because of expenditure during the war period.

The Binding Department is greatly in need of a stitching machine to be used to replace hand sewing of books needing rebinding, as well as to keep old books in better condition. It is a known fact that a new book of fiction to-day will circulate six times on the average, whereas the same book re-enforced will go thirty-five times.

The Committee was informed that with the same number of employees as last year over thirty-one thousand books of fiction alone were handled by this department, which is a great increase over last year's output. The present force is working under a severe strain and tension and the Committee finds it imperative that the number of employees be increased when practicable.

The Committee concurs with the recommendation of the Examining Committee of the past two years that these two important departments be maintained in the Library building.

#### BRANCHES AND READING ROOMS.

The South End Branch Library has been getting ready to move for several months, and now hopes to be established in the new Municipal Building early in 1923.

The books have had a very thorough examination, and the number has been reduced to about 14,000 volumes. Some of the old ones weeded out have been resting unused in the stacks for many years.

The story-telling gives great satisfaction, and it is anticipated that in the new building more constant supervision can be given since there the whole library will be on one floor.

The lighting and ventilating of the Andrew Square Reading Room are faulty. There is urgent need of Polish books for adults. The great volume of attendance is in the evening, and discipline is at times difficult. Gas is the lighting medium here; there is electricity in the building and it could be installed at moderate expense in the library rooms. When it is a question of conservation of sight, no expense should be considered.

The City Point Reading Room needs painting, both interior and hallways, the latter being much defaced, cut, and generally damaged; co-operation of school teachers and principals with library authorities might stop this vandalism. The lighting system is poorly placed. The traffic of cars in front of the building and dancing upstairs continually dislodge the bulbs. Green shaded desk lights for the six desks, lights for tables in adult section of the room, and small lights over shelves would help here. The ceilings need whitewashing, and after six years of occupancy, new shades are needed at the windows; as reported last year, more space is needed. There is no opportunity for quiet reading, and concentration is out of the question. More space would materially add to efficiency of service.

The Tyler Street Reading Room is situated in the Municipal Building on the floor below the gymnasium, and this is a most undesirable location. The noise from the gymnasium is very pronounced and annoying, and it is impossible to do any concentrated reading while the gymnasium is being used. The lights are about ten feet above the tables, and inadequate for proper reading. It would require very little expense to lower these lights so that they might be of some practical use to the readers. This reading room should be made more attractive, as it is a centre where a great deal of good can be done in the way of Americanizing a large foreign element.

With the exception of the Orient Heights Reading Room, the quarters of the East Boston and Charlestown group of branches and reading rooms are modern, adequate for present needs, and in good condition. The lighting system at the East Boston Branch should be improved. The Orient Heights Reading Room is in urgent need of larger quarters. It has altogether outgrown its present accommodations. The generous appropriation for books granted the past year has made possible a larger supply of volumes at all the branches and reading rooms. More books, however, are needed. A decided effort should be made, especially through the public, to lessen the thieving and mutilation of books. The Library employees are greatly overworked.

The Committee recommends that larger quarters be found for the Jamaica Plain Reading Rooms, if possible. More books are needed in the Jamaica Plain and Brighton groups.

The Roxbury Branch is in a very good condition and contains an ample supply of books for its requirements. The problem of administration in this branch is laborious, owing to the library being arranged on two floors. This plan requires additional supervision and arduous service, and there is, in consequence, an urgent need of either another assistant or of more money to pay for extra service.

While the Roxbury Branch is well patronized by adults and children, yet owing to changes in the local population of late years, some utilization of social service might tend to increase its efficiency. This, of course, is a problem to be solved in many localities.

The room at the Mt. Pleasant Branch is a very desirable one, except that the lighting does not seem to be satisfactory. The room is a high studded one and the system of lighting is indirect. The result is that there is none too much light at the tables, even where they are directly under the reflectors, and in one corner particularly where the reference books are located, it is too dark to permit continuous reading. The walls of the room are in shabby condition and should be painted.

In no place is there greater need of the positive social service work of the library than at the Dorchester Branch. The population needs the vision encouraged by such an institution. Unfortunately the location could hardly be worse. The situation of the Library in the same building with the District Court does not encourage attendance and it is believed that this is the reason why the growth in circulation has not kept pace with the other branches. Moreover the main room is not properly constructed to give unobstructed view of the shelves and this doubtless encourages the loss of books and makes the control of the users more difficult. The renovation and rearrangement of the Children's Room has helped greatly and the room in itself is well arranged. The objection is its distance from the main room on an upper floor. The supply of books is good. Probably



THE WEST ROXBURY BRANCH LIBRARY.





the new building needed is impossible of achievement at this time.

The Neponset Reading Room is well located and has a good collection of pictures for children and encourages work with the schools. The library room is good in arrangement and the boys and girls orderly.

The Lower Mills Reading Room has an excellent location and its size is ample. It is supplied with a good collection of books. The librarian should have a regular assistant.

The report of last year on the Mattapan Branch gave a picture of the deplorable lack of support. Since that time the librarian has had a regular assistant granted her and that constitutes an improvement. There is a great opportunity here in a district with a large population of children. Need exists for making the reading room a real social force. The location is fair, but the room is inadequate with no opportunity for expansion. There is a need here of more books, more tables, and some arrangement should be made to place a rail or counter about the librarian's station. The room is poorly lighted both by windows and artificial light. The walls need painting and the ceiling cleaning. The fixtures and the woodwork are dark in color and add to the darkness of the room. The floor is of hard pine and the tramping of the children coming and going makes reading practically impossible. The supply of books for school children is inadequate, especially the third, fourth and fifth grades.

The Uphams Corner Branch is apparently doing well. The location is good, but it needs a new magazine case for the children's room and more shelf room. The latter is a difficult problem because the wall space is well occupied. This branch seems to be very widely used not only for the purpose of reading, but perhaps also because it furnishes social attractions for the young people in the neighborhood.

The Mt. Bowdoin Branch, one of the most crowded as to seating capacity, tables and shelf room, has been improved under a new arrangement. Perhaps in no place has more been accomplished in the way of efficient handling of a very poorly

arranged and inadequate room. The time will soon come when in this most important centre an adequate building must be furnished.

The Codman Square Branch continues to be a most valuable social and educational centre. The efforts to cooperate with the schools to reach the children of the district, to act in educating the literary taste of the mothers, and the fact that with some drawbacks of construction the building is modern and centrally located help to make it one of the most efficient in the city. Always to be borne in mind in regard to all these branches is the need of more books, more assistants and higher pay in order to enable the library to compete with the other professions and lines of business to secure educated and efficient service.

The reading rooms of the North End Branch are cheerful, inviting and wellordered. It does practically the work of a settlement house and does it to the great satisfaction of both the public and the workers in the Branch. Its patrons have the unique distinction of caring less for novels than for books of history and travel. A crying need is for books. They need "easy" books, fairy tales, children's books of all kinds. These should come in steadily, during every month of the year. If the City is to do its duty by the Italian children who throng the clean, home-like, well-ordered rooms of this branch, there should be a constant stream of new books.

At the West End Branch, too, there is a large circulation of books. Crowds of children are handled day after day with efficiency. On a single day during the Christmas vacation eight hundred and eighty-five volumes were given out. But at present the branch is working under a heavy handicap of inefficient housekeeping. It occupies one of the most notable buildings of early Boston — the West Church, an object of just pride to every lover of old Boston. It is undoubtedly a difficult house to keep clean; but no pains should be spared to make its fine entrance and every inch of its good woodwork and suitable furnishings a spotless memorial to a gracious past. It should be a shining example of cleanliness, order and dignity to all the neighborhood in which it is set. The Committee re-emphasizes the report of

last year recommending a more modern system of lighting for the sake of efficiency and the saving of expense. The lighting for the stacks is particularly inconvenient and inadequate as well as expensive.

#### CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT AND WORK WITH CHILDREN.

In order to give adequate information relating to the Library and the full facilities afforded there, the committee recommends that circulars of information be distributed throughout all the schools in the city. In this circular the opportunities available in the main Library and in the branches should be set forth, together with proper means of insuring co-operation between the schools and the Library. If properly employed this should be of great service to the teachers and pupils of the city and should assist also in a reduction of the loss and mutilation of library books. This is a matter which needs careful and persistent attention, and only the most vigilant efforts on the part of all concerned and a development of a high sense of responsibility among the youth of the city can assist in reducing this annual loss and destruction.

The Committee desires to express its approval of the use of the story hour in various branch libraries under the supervision of this department. The numbers that have attended these meetings have shown unmistakably the wide-spread appreciation of this work.

#### CONCLUSION.

The Committee as a whole desires to endorse the appeal for better pay for the Library staff. It is undoubtedly the desire of every good citizen to have the trusty staff of the City's great treasure of books as well paid, as are the staffs of practically all other large American libraries. We have one of the most important public libraries in the world, with service equal to any. and we have, even in our own State of Massachusetts, several smaller libraries paying better salaries. Your Committee desires to see the Boston Public Library kept in the very first rank in every respect. Indeed, several recent reports have been

made covering these matters, but little has been accomplished. The Committee wonders whether our Boston spirit of leadership has been lost. The Boston Public Library is the "mother" of all public city libraries tax supported on our continent, and should be kept well in the lead within the ability of our constituency in every detail.

The main points of the subcommittees are: 1. A satisfactory scale of returns for all employees; 2. Books; 3. Light; 4. Repairs and upkeep. Of greatest importance for the whole system is the establishment of a branch library for the business men of Greater Boston in the new building of the Chamber of Commerce. The lighting should be gone over in every library and reading room, and no expense avoided to render this first class in every respect.

Adopted as the Report of the Examining Committee, January 29, 1923.

## REPORT OF THE LIBRARIAN.

*To the Board of Trustees:*

I respectfully submit my report for the year ending January 31, 1923.

### INTRODUCTION.

An inadequate appropriation for the Library Department has forbidden any important extension, either of service or of personnel, during the year just closed. The Library System, however, has made more than satisfactory progress. Heads of departments and many of the branch librarians report that never in the history of the Institution has so great use been made of the reading rooms and of the non-circulating collections. Bates Hall, the reading rooms in the Special Libraries Department, the Children's Room, the Teacher's Room, the Information Office and the Open Shelf Room, in the Central Building, have often been taxed beyond capacity. The same is true of reading rooms in many of the branches throughout the system.

The large increase in circulation of a year ago — 223,870 over the year 1920–1921 — was a direct result of the purchase of more books for circulation, made possible through the enlarged book appropriation of \$100,000. It was questioned whether the circulation for the current year would show a marked gain, but it is a satisfaction to report that the circulation for the past year was 2,768,984; a gain of 96,338 over the year 1921–22. In 1917–18 the total circulation of the Library System was 2,028,053; the five year period, therefore, including the current year, shows a satisfactory gain in circulation of 740,931. With more books, more branches, more service, the figures could be enormously increased; the Library Department which received 1.03 cents on each dollar expended by the City last year,

is on the threshold only of its opportunity for a greatly enlarged service.

#### REQUIREMENTS.

The major requirements for the Boston Public Library system for the next fiscal year may be summarized as follows:

1. A larger personal service appropriation in order that salaries, especially of those members of the Library staff holding major positions, may be increased, and in order that the needed additional assistants may be added to the staff at the Central Library and branches.

The last general increase to employees was voted in April 1920, when special consideration was given to the middle grade employees, those receiving under \$2000. The holders of the more responsible positions received in most cases no increase in wages. Increases were also given at that time to all employees in the mechanical departments to meet the salary scales of the various unions. The amount allowed for increases in pay in 1920 totalled some \$80,000. Since then no general salary increase has been voted.

2. A book appropriation equal at least to that of the past two years, namely \$100,000, in order to meet in part the insistent and reasonable demands of the book-reading public served by the Library.

3. Miscellaneous appropriations sufficiently large to make possible the maintenance of the proper equipment and the carrying out of the necessary major repairs at the Central Library, branches and reading rooms.

4. Some provision for the rapid future growth of the Institution, especially

- (a) Immediate installation of the two remaining floors of steel stacks in the Annex;

- (b) The addition of two floors to the Annex to provide for the transfer of the Catalogue and Ordering Departments, thus releasing valuable space on the ground floor of the Central Building for public purposes;

(c) New branches and reading rooms in various sections of the city for which there is and has been a popular demand.

### BOOKS.

The Library has acquired the past year 78,309 books, as against 77,881 in 1921-22, at a total cost of \$110,450.35.

Of this number 67,452 volumes were added by purchase, 8,165 by gift, and the remainder by exchange, etc. The number of gifts represents only those volumes accessioned and catalogued; the total number of volumes received by gift was 12,968. Of the purchases, 4,701 volumes were bought with trust funds at a cost of \$18,986.23; 62,751 volumes and the periodicals subscribed for throughout the Library System represent the outlay of the Budget allowance of \$100,000. The cost of periodicals was \$9,585.16. Of the total number of books bought with the current appropriation, 55,311 volumes (86 per cent) were placed in branches and in the Deposit Collection and included 29,798 volumes (53 per cent of the total) of books for younger readers.

For the second time in the history of the Library the sum of \$100,000. has been allowed by the City for the purchase of books and periodicals. While from all points of view this seems a generous allowance, its chief use has been to supply the thirty-two branch libraries with books for circulation. It should be noted, however, that when the library year closed there were nearly 7,000 titles of books, asked for by the branches for replacement of worn out material, which had been necessarily held up during the fall months for lack of money. Taking out the cost of periodicals, there was left about \$90,000. to equip thirty-two branches, the branch deposit collection, the Central Library and all the distributing centres with new books, including reference books, technical books, new fiction, replacements of worn out books, and children's books.

In the last five years, the manufacturing cost of books has almost doubled. Technical books especially are of high cost and in constant demand. The call for more and more children's



books is insistent. For every University Extension course given, the Library is asked to provide collateral reading. There is seemingly no end to the demands made on the book appropriation.

For the more important, rare and costly books which extend the special collections of fine arts, architecture, music, Americana, first editions, etc., the Library depends on the income of Trust Funds, and in many cases it has been necessary to forego the acquisition of desirable material in all these fields because of the inadequacy of this income.

The fiscal year 1922-23 has been, nevertheless, a year of opportunity in sales of early American literature and first editions of modern authors. The Artz Collection, consisting of first and rare editions, has been enriched to the extent of some three hundred volumes, secured chiefly at auction sales.

A special collection of American poetry and plays covering the period 1786 to 1850 was obtained at the sale of the Sturges library in New York, an unusual assemblage of American literature by a collector of note. A complete examination of the catalogue of the sale revealed the fact that this Library possessed 1,469 out of the 1,958 titles listed and purchases at the sale increased this number by over one hundred volumes.

To the Brown Music Library the most striking additions have been the full score of Mozart's *Don Juan*, Leipzig (179-?); Schubert's *Erlkönig*, Wien, 1821; *Choral-Buch, enthaltend alle zu dem Gesangbuche der Evangelischen Brüder-Gemeinen von Jahre 1778 gehörige Melodien*, Leipzig, 1784, all secured from Vienna; a collection of autographs of the Members of the Sacred Harmonic Society presented as a testimonial to Sir Michael Costa in 1865 on the Society's first performance of his oratorio, *Naaman*; and 131 songs (with music) of the World War.

Other interesting acquisitions include seven New England almanacs issued before 1800, two of which were published in Boston, and a number of early American periodicals, among them *The Broadway Journal*, edited by Edgar Allan Poe, New York, 1845.

To enable the Technical Division to supply the pressing demand for books on radio telegraphy, a special purchase was made of some sixty of the titles most frequently called for. There was also bought in response to an urgent request from a constituency of readers a collection of books in Ukrainian, a language hitherto unrepresented in the Library.

In the following list are noted some of the most important single works acquired during the year:

Baldass, Ludwig. *Die Wiener Gobelinsammlung. Dreihundert Bildtafeln mit beschreibendem Text und wissenschaftlichen Anmerkungen.* Amtliche Ausgabe. Wien. 1920. 15 parts. Plates, some colored.

Blake, William. *Illustrations to the Divine Comedy of Dante.* London. Printed privately for the Nation Art-Collections Fund. 1922. 102 plates in collotype facsimile.

Blake, William. *William Blake's designs for Gray's poems reproduced full-size in monochrome or colour from the unique copy belonging to His Grace the Duke of Hamilton.* London. 1922. Portrait. Plates, some colored.

Boccaccio, Giovanni. *Il libro di Messer Giovanni Boccaccio, cittadino fiorentino chiamato Il decameron.* Nella Stamperia Ashendeniana, Chelsea. 1920.

British Museum. Department of Manuscripts. *Catalogue of western manuscripts in the old Royal and Kings collections.* By Sir George F. Warner and Julius P. Gilson. London. 1921. Text, 3 v.; Atlas, 125 plates. An important work which has been in preparation since 1894.

Chaucer, Geoffrey. *The workes of ovr ancient and learned poet, Geffrey Chavcer, newly printed.* (Edited by Thomas Speight.) London. 1602. Illus. Portrait.

Dante Alighieri. *La Divina Commedia.* Facsimile del Codice Landiano MCCCXXXVI. Pubblicato in centosettantacinque esemplari nel VI Centenario dalla morte del poeta. Olschki. Firenze. MCMXXI. Folio. 212 heliotype plates. Esemplare No. 35.

Darell, John. *Strange news from th' Indies; or, East-India passages further discovered.* London. 1652.

Dryden, John. *The medall. A satyre against sedition.* London. 1682. On a medal struck by the English Whigs to celebrate the acquittal of the Earl of Shaftesbury on the charge of treason.

Evans, Sir Arthur John. *The Palace of Minos. A comparative account of the successive stages of the early Cretan civilization as illustrated by the discoveries at Knossos.* Vol. 1. London. 1921. Illus. Plates.

Gay, John. *Fables.* By Mr. Gay. London. 1727. Vignettes.

The vignettes are engraved by Fourdrinier, Van der Gucht, Gravelot and others.

Hope, Sir William Henry St. John. Windsor Castle; an architectural history. Collected and written by command of their Majesties Queen Victoria, King Edward VII., & King George V. London. 1913. Text, 2 v. Plates.

Japan. Imperial Commission to the Panama-Pacific International Exposition. Japanese temples and their treasures. Edited by His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Commission . . . (from the publication of the Department of the Interior). Tokyo. 1915. Illus. Atlas, 529 plates, some colored. (One of an edition of 200 copies.)

Kitton, Frederick George. Charles Dickens by pen and pencil. 31 engraved portraits, many being remarque proofs on India paper and other illustrations and portraits. With supplement. London. 1889-1890. 2 v.

Libby Prison play-bill. The Libby Prison minstrels. Thursday evening, Dec. 24, 1863. Programme. Richmond. 1863. Original play bill of a theatrical performance given by the Northern officers in Libby Prison during their confinement there.

Louvre, Musée du, Paris. Le Musée du Louvre depuis 1914; dons, legs et acquisitions. Paris. 1919-21. 3 v. Illus. Portraits. Plates.

Mather, Cotton. The life and death of the Reverend Mr. John Eliot, who was the first preacher of the Gospel to the Indians in America. The 3d edition carefully corrected. London. 1694.

Mercier, Désiré Joseph, Cardinal, Archbishop of Malines. Patriotism and endurance. Pastoral letter of Cardinal Mercier, Christmas, 1914. Illustrated by the Benedictine Nuns of Maredret in the Gothic style of the XIIIth and XIVth centuries. Turnhout (Belgium). 1921. 35 illuminated plates.

Oakley, Violet. The holy experiment: a message to the world from Pennsylvania. Series of mural paintings . . . in the Governor's reception room and in the Senate Chamber of the State Capitol at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Philadelphia. 1922. Illus. 22 colored plates. Illuminated coat of arms, borders and chapter headings. Autograph facsimiles.

Sadler, Anthony. The subjects joy for the Kings restoration, cheerfully made known in a sacred masque: gratefully made publique for His Sacred Majesty. (1st edition.) London. 1660.

Shawn, Edwin C. Ruth St. Denis: pioneer and prophet. Being a history of her cycle of oriental dances. (Decorations by W. F. Rauschnabel.) San Francisco. 1920. 2 v.

Simeoni, Gabriello. Figvre del vecchio (e del nvovo) testamento, illustrate di bellissime stanza volgari da Gabriel Simeoni. Nuouamente ristampate, et con diligenza corrette. In Vinegia. 1574. 2 v. in 1. 370 woodcuts.

Shakespeare, William. (Works.) (The Vale Shakespeare.) Decorated by Charles Ricketts. London. 39 v. 1900-1903.

Speidell, John. A geometricall extraction. Collected out of the best and latest writers. London. 1616.

As has been stated, the gifts received during the year aggregated 12,968 volumes, 13,078 issues of serials, 763 photographs, 349 lantern slides and 48 newspaper subscriptions from 5,936 givers, as compared with 11,193 volumes, 16,362 issues of serials, 485 photographs, and 48 newspaper subscriptions from 5,411 givers in 1921.

The gifts constituted a rather larger number of volumes than usual and those of especial interest have been noted as customary in the Quarterly Bulletins. The Patent Office of Great Britain continues to send its very valuable Patents for Inventions, the British Museum has presented its important Subject Index of the Modern Books acquired 1916-20, and A Catalogue of the Persian printed books in the Museum. The Library is indebted to the Siamese Legation at Washington for Buddhaghosa's Commentary on the Four Nikayas of the Sutta Patika, twelve volumes in the Pali language of Siam. The volumes constitute a complementary issue to the Tripitaka, in 39 volumes, which was given to the Library by the King of Siam in 1895. The Préfecture du Department de la Seine, Paris, has sent the continuing volume (15) of the Histoire générale de Paris and Sommier des biens nationaux de la Ville de Paris in two volumes.

The Library has also received during the year, through Mr. William Minot, administrator, a bequest from Sarah E. Pratt, late of Boston, the sum of \$500. for the benefit of the Dorchester Branch. The Trustees voted to fund this bequest as the Sarah E. Pratt Fund, the income to be applied to the purchase of books for the Dorchester Branch.

#### REGISTRATION DEPARTMENT.

On January 31, 1922, there were outstanding 109,950 registration cards. Through the Central Library, its branches and reading rooms, there have been added 34,708 new registrations and 21,508 renewals, making a total of 56,216 cards added

during the year. There have been 52,283 borrowers who have allowed their home use privilege to lapse, making a total of 113,883 "live" cards on February 1, 1923, a gain of 3,933 over last year. Among the borrowers who allow their cards to lapse each year must be numbered those students who are no longer in residence. At the close of the fiscal year there were 31,472 "live" card registrations of teachers; 712 of this number were new registrants — 473 residents of the city and 239 non-residents who teach in institutions of learning in the City of Boston. Special privilege cards were voted by the Trustees to 168 persons; these, added to the 228 that have been renewed, make a total of 396 "live" special privilege cards.

With the growth of the Library registration and the development of the geographical records, consideration must soon be given to the need for more adequate filing cases in the department.

#### CATALOGUE AND SHELF DEPARTMENT.

The number of volumes and parts of volumes catalogued during the fiscal year 1922-23 was 91,723, and the number of titles 62,846. The number of cards added to the catalogues was 212,635, of which 184,666 were added in the Central Library and 27,969 in the branches. Of the cards filed in the Central Library 56,567 were placed in the Bates Hall and Issue Department catalogues, 53,772 in the official catalogues, and 25,601 in the catalogues of the Special Libraries, and lists in process. Temporary author and subject, or title cards, were filed in the Bates Hall and Fine Arts catalogue within a few days after the receipt of every new bound work. Printed catalogue cards for all new books have been sent, as usual, to the Editor as a basis for copy for the Quarterly Bulletin. One card for every title printed was sent to the Library of Congress as in the nineteen preceding years, in return for which this Library has received galley proofs of the Library of Congress cards. One card for each title has also been sent to the Harvard College Library, which has sent in return its own printed cards.

Two vacancies of importance exist in the Catalogue Department, both calling for expert knowledge of cataloguing and ac-

quaintance with foreign languages. Properly qualified persons are apparently not to be found, even at a salary somewhat higher than the amount at which the positions are graded. Unless suitable assistants can be found, and unless vacancies of less importance in the Shelf Department are filled, the work of the Department will materially suffer. As stated in a previous report, the work of recommending desirable titles found in bibliographies, periodicals, lists and texts has been carried on as usual. There are besides many instances of service of which no record is kept; translations are made, letters on bibliographical and other matters are answered, and readers and investigators helped in their researches. These activities cannot appear in the statistics of this Department or of other departments, but the wide reputation of the Library for generous and scholarly service justifies the time given to this work.

The usual details for two successive years, presented by the Chief of the Catalogue Department, may be found on page 65 of the Appendix.

#### PUBLICATIONS.

The fourth volume (Fourth Series) of the Quarterly Bulletin, devoted primarily to the presentation of titles of new books, was completed in December. It contained 462 pages — an increase of about fifty pages over any preceding volume of the series. This was due partly to the experiment tried out in the March number, and continued through the year, of adding brief titles under subject headings, where only the author's name had been given heretofore; and partly to the inclusion of a short bibliography in each number. The additional space thus demanded was partially offset, however, by abolishing geographical headings, which had been used in connection with such general subjects as Literature, History, Economics, Travel, etc. These innovations seem to have been generally approved and therefore justified.

Each number, except that of September, has included editorial material descriptive of some one of the special libraries, and all have given reprints or facsimile reproductions of some valued

document, with explanatory or other notes. In March the Bowditch Library, formerly the property of Dr. Nathaniel Bowditch, was presented, with the assistance of material furnished by Dr. Vincent Y. Bowditch, and Mr. James H. Bowditch very kindly allowed the Library to make and use a reproduction of Gilbert Stuart's portrait of his grandfather, now in his possession. A facsimile of Boston's first city charter, to celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of its granting, and a list of work on Pageants and Masques, compiled by Miss E. Carolyn Merrill of the Catalogue Department were the other features of the March number. In June the Allen A. Brown libraries — both the Music and the Dramatic collections — were treated, accompanied by a portrait of Mr. Brown after that by John H. Garo, which was presented to the Library by friends of Mr. Brown, and now hangs in the Music Room. A facsimile of a manuscript account of a journey from Boston to Albany in July, 1746, was included in the June number, with editorial notes on the purpose of the journey and on the travellers. Books and magazine articles on the Project Method of Education were the subject of the special list, compiled by Miss Alice M. Jordan, Supervisor of Work with Children. The Library having recently purchased an original leaf of the Gutenberg Bible of 1450-55, one side of this leaf was reproduced in facsimile for the September Bulletin; the only other special item was a list of newspapers currently received in the News Room. This list was so marked by asterisks as to show also the papers of which files are preserved, and was mainly the work of Pierce E. Buckley, Custodian of Bates Hall Centre Desk, Patent and Newspaper Departments. In December the story of the Prince Library was told, and the Old South Church and Society, by whom the Prince Collection was deposited with the Public Library, very generously allowed the Library to photograph their copy of John Greenwood's portrait of Thomas Prince as a frontispiece to the Bulletin. An original letter of the Rev. Jeremy Belknap, dealing principally with political conditions in Boston in 1789, formed part of the December issue, and a list of maps of Massachusetts, its counties and towns, compiled by



John Murdoch of the Catalogue Department, was added. The September and December numbers, following the custom of many years, gave space for the announcement of public lectures and courses of instruction given, not only within the Library building, but in many other centres throughout the city. As an indication of educational ideals and standards these announcements furnish very valuable data.

Each number of the Bulletin has been printed in an edition of two thousand copies, with seventy-five copies on durable paper.

During the year the Library has also issued the following publications:

*Weekly Lists.* 52 numbers in editions of 2,500 each, edited by Lucien E. Taylor of the Catalogue Department. Beginning with February 4, 1922, each list has contained a single-page supplement entitled *Ten-Book List*. These supplements, 53 in number, treat of subjects of current interest or in constant request, and give the titles of books which, in text and illustrations, make the subject vivid for the general reader. Each list has been prepared and annotated by a person especially familiar with the subject, usually a member of the Staff.

*List of Books on Modern Ireland*, (7) + 90 pp., a reprint of 300 copies, with corrections, compiled by Lucien E. Taylor, of the Catalogue Department.

*Libri Italiani Moderni*, (6) + 108 pp., compiled by Mary H. Rollins, of the Catalogue Department; 1000 copies, 75 on special paper.

*A Guide to Serial Publications* founded prior to 1918 and now or recently current in Boston, Cambridge, and vicinity, compiled and edited by Thomas Johnston Homer; part 1, A-Bibl., 1050 copies, 50 on special paper, xvi, 96 pages. Eighty-five libraries are covered by this union list, and part 1 contains 1859 main entries. The remaining material will be printed as rapidly as possible; it is, meanwhile, accessible for use in the Barton Gallery of the Central Library.

*Library Life*, the Staff Bulletin, entered upon its second year in October under the same general management, but with an added and well-organized force of assistants, which should increase its value in the particular fields where it gleans.



## BATES HALL.

The revision of the Reference Collection, begun several years ago, has proceeded until only the sections devoted to language and geography await a systematic rearrangement. When those shelves are completed, the Reference Collection will include current books covering the various fields of knowledge as well as the well tested books of earlier years. The changes in the collection, as a matter of record for the year, total 932 titles (1270 volumes). There have been placed on the shelves 400 new titles (516 volumes) and the current issues of 103 "continuations." The volumes on chemistry and physics have been transferred to the Technical Division of the Library which has assumed charge of those subjects. It is a gratification to note that the missing list is smaller than in any year since the conclusion of the war. During 1922-23, 191 volumes disappeared from the shelves, but the recovery of 23 volumes missing in former years reduces the net loss to 168 volumes.

The year's correspondence has been somewhat larger than that of last year. Answers have been sent to 642 inquirers, of whom 619 live in the United States and 23 in foreign countries.

## BATES HALL CENTRE DESK, NEWSPAPER AND PATENT ROOMS.

It is impracticable to record the use of the Bates Hall reference collections, consisting of over ten thousand volumes on the open shelves of the room. The attendance and use of the collections has probably held its own in comparison with other years, even though there has been a slight decrease in the number of books sent from the Library stacks on "Hall Use" slips. The total number of volumes sent to Bates Hall during the past three years were as follows: 1920-21, 224,501; 1921-22, 251,141; 1922-23, 240,600. The largest daily circulation was 1,218 on March 4, 1922. The maximum attendance was 298 on January 29, 1922, at 5 p.m., compared with 336 on October 30, 1921, at the same hour. It is inevitable that delays in the delivery of books should sometime occur; but comparatively

few persons, compared with the large number using the Hall, are inconvenienced. As was stated last year, no improvement in service can be anticipated until some modern mechanical system is installed connecting Bates Hall with the distant stacks from which the books are sent.

*Newspaper Room.* There are 267 newspapers regularly placed on file in the Newspaper Room; of this number 210 are dailies and 57 weeklies; 190 are papers published in the United States and 77 in foreign countries. The bound volumes in the newspaper collection now number 8,747, of which 96 volumes were added during the current year. Readers applying for bound files numbered 18,639 and consulted 33,364 volumes, an increase over 1921-22 of 35 readers and 180 volumes consulted. Below are listed the number of foreign papers received, arranged by countries and by languages, and also the number of American papers printed in foreign languages.

#### FOREIGN PAPERS BY COUNTRIES.

Argentine Republic . . . . .	1	Egypt . . . . .	1	Japan . . . . .	1
Australia . . . . .	4	England . . . . .	10	New Zealand . . . . .	1
Austria . . . . .	1	Finland . . . . .	1	Newfoundland . . . . .	1
Belgium . . . . .	1	France . . . . .	5	Norway . . . . .	1
Bermuda . . . . .	1	Germany . . . . .	7	Panama . . . . .	1
Canada . . . . .	10	Holland . . . . .	1	Portugal . . . . .	1
Cape Colony . . . . .	1	Hungary . . . . .	1	Scotland . . . . .	2
Chile . . . . .	1	India . . . . .	2	Spain . . . . .	1
China . . . . .	1	Ireland . . . . .	6	Sweden . . . . .	3
Cuba . . . . .	2	Italy . . . . .	2	Switzerland . . . . .	3
Denmark . . . . .	2	Jamaica . . . . .	1		

#### FOREIGN PAPERS BY LANGUAGES.

Danish . . . . .	2	French . . . . .	8	Norwegian . . . . .	1
Dutch . . . . .	1	German . . . . .	9	Portuguese . . . . .	1
English . . . . .	45	Hungarian . . . . .	1	Spanish . . . . .	3
Finnish . . . . .	1	Italian . . . . .	2	Swedish . . . . .	3

#### AMERICAN PAPERS IN FOREIGN LANGUAGES.

Albanian . . . . .	1	French . . . . .	1	Spanish . . . . .	1
Arabic . . . . .	1	German . . . . .	3	Swedish . . . . .	2
Armenian . . . . .	2	Greek . . . . .	2	Welsh . . . . .	1

*Patent Room.* The Patent collection now numbers 16,293 volumes, of which number 96 volumes were added during the past year, from the United States, Great Britain, France, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. No files of German patents

have been received since 1914. The European agents of the Library have been unable to obtain continuations, which is much to be regretted.

#### INFORMATION OFFICE, GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS AND OPEN SHELF ROOMS.

The service offered in these rooms, described in the reports of the previous two years, continues to grow. Their position is strategically excellent and they save much time for the visitor, especially the stranger, who does not know the location of the different departments and what they have to offer. In the Information Office there are now available several hundred directories and telephone books, which are in constant use — a service which is warmly appreciated by the public. There are also live files on banks and banking, budgets, foreign trade, etc.; news letters from banks, business organizations, and chambers of commerce throughout the country are regularly received. The vocational file has been brought up to date and is in use continually. Indexes have been made for the business and vocational files and for the current government publications on the shelves of the Document Room.

In the Open Shelf Room books on travel, biography, especially memoirs, psychology, business, essays, nature books, and the collections in foreign languages, are popular. Books of plays and dramatic criticism are much in demand, particularly when the dramatic schools in the vicinity of Copley Square are in session. The books are in a sense hand picked, with the exception of the new volumes of non-fiction; the shelves are filled in the main with books published several years ago, taken from the main stacks of the Library. The collection is an ever changing one and suggestions from the public are welcomed. One gentleman, an ardent reader of books on travel, lent the attendant a card catalogue of the books he had read in the past five years; a French teacher in one of the Boston high schools submits an occasional list of modern French fiction; a sociology teacher enthusiastically suggests the selection of books on that subject.

A number of readers keep note books and jot down Open Shelf Room suggestions as they occur. The clientele of the Open Shelf Room, the Information Office, and the Government Documents Room is enthusiastically appreciative.

#### PERIODICAL ROOM, CENTRAL LIBRARY.

The Custodian of the Periodical Room reports the aggregate number reading in the room at certain hours in each of the last two years and the number reported five years ago, as follows:

ATTENDANCE.							
At the hours	10	12	2	4	6	8	9.45
	A.M.	M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
1922-1923 . .	14,871	16,263	27,826	33,109	22,241	26,310	13,216
1921-1922 . .	14,264	15,875	25,943	31,762	21,786	25,619	12,827
1917-1918 . .	9,873	12,981	20,673	26,327	18,784	22,701	8,522

The use of bound and unbound files shows a large increase over last year, as follows:

BOUND VOLUMES.			1922-23.	1921-22.
Volumes consulted during day . . . . .			44,843	42,924
Volumes consulted during evenings and Sundays . . . . .			18,762	17,581

UNBOUND NUMBERS OF MAGAZINES.			1922-23.	1921-22.
Volumes consulted during day . . . . .			53,786	53,378
Volumes consulted during evenings and Sundays . . . . .			23,479	22,736

The figures given show a steady gain over the year 1921-22 in the number of readers and in the number of bound and unbound magazines used. It is encouraging to be able to state that the work of the Periodical Department has increased in every way, not only in the number of periodicals called for, but especially in the increase in the use of the department for reference work. At times the staff has been taxed to its utmost in assisting the large numbers of students that come from the universities, colleges and schools seeking information on the topics of the day. When funds are available a more modern equipment of the Periodical Room should be installed. The periodical racks are out of date and are the source of repeated complaints from readers.

## SPECIAL LIBRARIES.

Following is a brief indication of the scope of the Special Libraries located on the third floor of the Central Building:

*Fine Arts Department*, containing books and periodicals in the fields of the fine arts (architecture, painting, sculpture, etc.), the industrial arts, applied sciences, and technology; also the Library's collections of photographs and lantern slides for study and for circulation.

*Music Room*, the Allen A. Brown reference collection of music and literature of music; also a large collection of music for home use, musical and dramatic periodicals, indexes and scrap-books.

*Barton-Ticknor Room*, special collections mainly restricted to use within the building, — Shakespeariana, Americana, Spanish literature, Civil War material, dramatic history, maps, etc.

The number of books issued for home use from the Special Libraries during the year was 25,130, compared with 25,256 in 1921-22 and 22,949 in 1920-21. The department added 601 lantern slides last year to its collection, 262 by purchase and 339 by gift, bringing the total to 9,736. During the same year 1,373 prints and photographs were accessioned. The total number of photographs and process pictures now available for circulation is 66,671. During the year 6,103 lantern slides and 2,444 portfolios of pictures were issued. As each portfolio consists of an issue of at least twenty-five pictures, the circulation of the latter was something over sixty thousand.

The Technical Division has revised its shelf lists and the classed catalogue of both technology and science, thereby making the service to the public more efficient.

The department installed during the Library year thirty-two exhibits; four of these were bibliographical — The Hopkins Collection of Dickensiana, Musical Rarities, the First Hundred Years of the City of Boston, and the Graphic Arts. Exhibits of special local interest were Boston 100 years ago, Boston school houses, Boston fires. All but eight of the exhibitions, which may be found listed in the Appendix on pages 70 and 71, were made up from collections owned by the Library.

For the convenience of the patrons of the Music Room a bulletin of the musical events of each week has been prepared and posted, together with the pictures, when available, of the artists appearing during the week. It is intended to file these bulletins with the press criticisms, thus making a complete musical year book of Boston, a compilation which should be of value and interest.

The Division promoted in December a series of seven Library lectures on Russian opera and, with the coöperation of the University Extension Division of the State Board of Education, the lectures were brought to a successful conclusion.

#### WORK WITH CHILDREN.

The following paragraph from the Report of the Supervisor of Work with Children forms an adequate text for a review of the year's work:

Library work with children aims chiefly and ideally to make reading a joy and not a task, and to establish a love of good books as a permanent satisfaction in life. Three factors are essential to accomplish this, the books themselves, the service of properly equipped assistants and rooms designed and furnished for the convenience and pleasure of children.

*Books for children.* The number added to the branch system as replacements, additional copies, or new books for the use of children, amounted to 29,798 volumes, and in addition there were placed in the Children's Room at the Central Library 1,832 volumes. Of the total number of books purchased for the branches, more than fifty per cent were assigned to children. This apportionment was reasonable as in all but eight of the branches and reading rooms the issue of books to children was more than fifty per cent of the circulation, and in only two did it fall below forty per cent. The issue of children's books for home use throughout the system was 1,230,243 out of a total of 2,768,984 volumes circulated. With such a degree of interest in reading manifested by children, at least an equal number of books will be required during the next year in order to keep the readers the system has gained and make an advance in attracting others.

The book selection is one of the most important duties of the Supervisor. New books are bought only after personal examination; replacements for worn out copies are considered in relation to the supply and demand; titles are dropped from the children's rooms and more timely ones take their place whenever recent books of information or instruction supersede older ones. A special demand from a locality is met by purchasing additional copies, it may be of books for beginners in reading, or of some other group to fill a special need. It is especially desirable that standard books for children should be available in sufficient number so that no child need wait, for example, for a copy of the *Arabian Nights* or *Robinson Crusoe*. Attention is also paid to choice of editions, in order to secure the classics in inviting form with clear type and good illustrations. Physical appearance makes all the difference in the immediate appeal that determines whether a child will read a book of his own initiative or only through outside suggestion.

Endeavor is also made to keep the purchase of books for children in proper ratio to the use of the branch or reading room by children. At North End, where the percentage of juvenile circulation is nearly 87 per cent of the whole, the book fund should be spent mainly for children's books; at West Roxbury and Faneuil, on the other hand, where the juvenile circulation is less than 38 per cent, the allotment should be on another basis.

*Service.* The service required of those who come in contact with children in a library is of an exacting nature, requiring special preparation as well as a certain native fitness. The training of assistants to qualify for this work during the year was furthered by a course in reference books and by the monthly conferences held with the Supervisor. One appointment of a trained children's librarian was made in the Charlestown Branch. It cannot be too strongly emphasized that the person who knows the books can exercise a marked influence on the children's choice. By study of book lists, by discussion, but most of all by comparative reading, the staff engaged in work with children are gaining in ability to give help in book selection and in reference work.

*Story Hour.* An invaluable aid to the work of a children's librarian exists in the story hour. This activity offers a personal introduction to books through the interpretation of a person who appreciates literature and understands how to connect it with the interests of boys and girls. The following quotation from the report of the Story-teller, Mrs. Mary F. Cronan, indicates a fruitful year in this field.

This year the children welcomed the Story Hour with even more enthusiasm than usual. With one or two exceptions attendance has been large in spite of weather and illness. Owing to the anxiety about fuel, resulting in discomfort and colds at home and school there seemed to be a wide-spread feeling of depression among adults. Perhaps that was one reason for the children's response to the Story Hour. They craved its joyous atmosphere and its freedom from limitations and were glad to leave the grown-up world behind. Since the children have not only had the joy of one period a week listening to stories, but have been led to the reading of many delightful books, the winter must have been lightened for them.

South Boston, Codman Square, West Roxbury, Charlestown, Faneuil and North End have steadily maintained large groups of eager listeners. Among these Faneuil had the Story Hour for the first time and the children have shown much appreciation. West Roxbury has had two well attended groups of different ages. The teachers in a neighboring school take a special interest, as before the opening of the new branch building story-telling was conducted at the school.

The majority in attendance at all the groups, with one exception, are boys, but the girls who come regularly grow in concentration and extent of interests.

An interesting experiment was the telling of Hugh Walpole's story of "Jeremy and the Black Bishop," as an introduction to "The Talisman." It is based on a boyhood experience of the author, which led him to his delight in Scott. The children listened with absorption, quite sympathizing with Jeremy's determination to read the book after he had bought it with his own money, and as the world of romance was disclosed to them, from one to half a dozen in each group attacked "The Talisman." One small boy of nine years read it from cover to cover, later entering into the telling in triumphant fashion, allowing no omissions that he considered important.

The Supervisor notes that the high quality of the stories continued by request from week to week is witness that there is no occasion for substituting the trivial and mediocre for the best. *Lorna Doone*, *Great Expectations*, *Oliver Twist*, *The Iliad*, *King Arthur*, *Quentine Durward*, and especially *The Talisman*, have all had seasons of great popularity.



The Americanization Committee of the Boston Chamber of Commerce, which for several years has financed story-telling in a number of schools, has this year directed its efforts to other channels, resulting in a flood of urgent requests that the Library carry on the work thus begun. Where library accommodations are unfavorable, Mrs. Cronan has tried to meet the call from the schools in some measure, if only for a few weeks. Among the schools applying for this privilege have been several pre-vocational schools in different parts of the city. From one of these a teacher writes, "We have never had anything which has given the boys such a stimulus to reading as the work of Mrs. Cronan and her helpers last year." The Library may well feel gratified by the statement of a principal of long experience and great understanding: "The story tellers have made a distinct and valuable contribution to the education of our pupils." It cannot be too strongly emphasized that the best results of story telling are achieved only when the libraries can supplement it by producing the books.

*Children's Rooms.* The children's room in the new branch at West Roxbury, opened in the spring of 1922, is greatly appreciated by the community. Cramped and restricted in space for readers and books, the old quarters made it impossible to give the children a fitting idea of how to use a library. Now in the new building, with their own large room, suitably furnished and well-stocked with books, they are bound to acquire a better sense of responsibility for the care and use of public property. At Dorchester the improved arrangement has been in force for about a year and has simplified some problems and solved others, though under the drawbacks of the old Municipal building conditions will never be entirely satisfactory.

Coöperation with the Children's Museum in Jamaica Plain, previously limited to book deposits at the Museum, has entered on a new phase and this year the Museum has begun to send exhibits to the children's rooms. The Central Children's Room and the Tyler Street Reading Room were selected to receive the first exhibits as they are supplied with show cases in which material may be satisfactorily displayed. In the Central Chil-

dren's Room three collections have been shown, Indian relics, winter birds, and minerals and shells. Tyler Street Reading Room has had a collection of Chinese articles.

*Central Children's Room.* The Central Children's Room has carried on its service of specialized work by preparing lists of books, answering many letters of inquiry on topics relating to children's reading and receiving classes for instruction on the use of the Library, as well as meeting the ordinary calls of a children's room. During the Supervisor's long absence because of illness early in the year, the staff cheerfully and faithfully assumed added responsibilities in carrying on the work of the Department. One assistant has been advanced to a position in a reading room where she is clearly demonstrating the value of the training she received in the Children's Room at the Central Library.

*Teachers' Room.* During the convention of the National Education Association, in the summer, the New England Association of School Librarians arranged a display of books, charts, and other material in the Teachers' Room and the department was visited extensively by persons from different parts of the country. The force was called upon to aid in the preparation of the exhibition by supplying books and rendering other assistance.

The collection of text-books shelved in the Teachers' Room was revised and brought up to date to conform with the present requirements of the city schools. Part of these books were obtained by gifts from the publishers at the request of the Library, and part were purchased. This much needed revision has greatly increased the usefulness of the collection along the lines it attempts to cover, namely the text books required in the Junior and Senior high schools of Boston.

The Teachers' Room gains in popularity with older students and continues to present difficult problems of administration. A striking growth in the demand for magazines relating to education is noticed, attributable to the numerous courses on the theory and practice of education, given at Boston and Harvard Universities. Current numbers are kept in the Teachers' Room,

but the needed references, listed in many bibliographies, are largely in bound volumes, kept in the gallery of the Children's Room. The call for these for the last three months amounted to 1,739 volumes. The reading list on the Project Method in Education, published in the June *Quarterly Bulletin*, has been noted by the instructors as helpful material. Books have been reserved for the use of students in the University Extension Courses, in accordance with the practice of recent years.

The issue of pictures from the files in the Teachers' Room has increased to 5,968, the largest number ever supplied by this department to teachers and the general public.

The Supervisor of Work with Children has filled numerous engagements, both in the city and outside, to speak on topics relating to children's reading, the home library, and the work of a children's librarian.

#### BRANCHES AND READING ROOMS.

The number of branch libraries is seventeen, and the number of reading rooms fourteen, as compared with sixteen branches and fifteen reading rooms a year ago, the Mt. Bowdoin Reading Room having been designated a branch, with extension of hours and service, on February 1, 1922. The subsidiary agencies served through the Branch Department include 59 fire engine houses, 34 institutions, and 209 schools, of which 19 are parochial schools. The total number of library agencies is 333 as compared with 320 a year ago. The number of volumes issued on borrowers' cards from the Central Library through the Branch Department was 111,070, as against 106,556 in 1921-22 and 108,169 in 1920-21. These figures show a gain of 4,514 volumes issued during last year, as compared with the year before. This is a normal gain and is largely due to the fact that the Branch Deposit Collection was increased by the addition of a number of new books, besides duplicate copies of older ones. The proportion of unsuccessful calls for books was 49+ per cent as against 56+ per cent a year before. Of the total unsuccessful requests 66,572 were calls for fiction, as against 63,288 last year. Of the total number of volumes sent out

from the Central Library through the branches 90,133 were taken directly from the shelves of the Branch Deposit Collection.

During the year fourteen branches gained in circulation and three lost; eight reading rooms gained and six lost. The greatest gains in the branches were at North End, West Roxbury, West End, and Warren Street; the losses were at Dorchester, Roxbury and Jamaica Plain. The greatest gains in the reading rooms were at Jeffries Point, City Point, Allston and Orient Heights; the reading room losses were at Mt. Pleasant, Roxbury Crossing, Andrew Square, Lower Mills, Tyler Street and Mat-tapan.

The number of volumes sent out on deposit to schools, institutions and other agencies from the Central Library were 45,286 as against 44,257 last year and 46,972 in 1920-21. The number of volumes sent to schools from the Central Library, branches and reading rooms was 56,348 compared with 46,096 last year. Of this number 18,524 were sent from the Branch Department, Central Library, as compared with 17,222 the year before. The number of books issued on deposit from the branch libraries, chiefly to schools, was 37,824 compared with 28,874 the year before. The number of individual teachers supplied was 1,200 as against 1,100 in 1921-22.

The total circulation of the branch system for the fiscal year was 2,424,014 volumes compared with 2,318,059 the year before, and 2,129,407 in 1920-21, or a gain of 105,955 volumes over the year 1921-22.

The number of new books bought for the branches was 16,360, as against 17,477 in 1921-22. There have been replacements to the number of 18,290 volumes, compared with 14,600 the preceding year. The additions to the permanent collections of the reading rooms were 11,916 compared with 16,163 in 1921-22.

The number of books bound for the branch libraries this past year was 23,465 as compared with 21,938 in 1921-22. The recasing of new books prior to their being placed in circulation has proved most satisfactory and has increased their potential circulation nearly three-fold.

The following extracts from the reports submitted by the librarians of various branches and reading rooms will be found of interest.

*Brighton.* In the increased number of children coming to borrow books, the work with the schools, and the story-hour, much progress has been made. Many of the children who come during the noon hours, Saturday mornings, and vacation periods are Italians who have not had the home training necessary to give much respect for the books, which they find convenient weapons to use for banging each other on the head.

*Charlestown.* The Children's Room on the first floor is a constant delight to many children in this congested district. After school the room is always well filled not only with children getting their school lessons, but also with many others who use the library for recreational reading. During the day the children come for books for parents who have no time to come themselves. In the winter evenings every seat is occupied. Teachers borrow collections of books and pictures, and reserve volumes for their classes. The hall in the basement is frequently used for the story-hour and for meetings of community interest.

*Dorchester.* Reference work is very important and takes an increasing amount of time; the corner set apart in the children's room for reference has been in constant use.

*East Boston.* The branch serves a community which is now composed, in the main, of aliens from Italy, Canada, Russia, Ireland, England, Sweden and Portugal. The library aims to interest these newcomers in the branch and to teach them the benefits gained thereby.

One little girl said recently, "I have left the library." "Why," I questioned. "Because my hands get cold going there." To hold the interest of children until they shall have acquired such a love of literature that not even the elements can deter them from seeking it, is our purpose.

*Mt. Bowdoin.* Few adults remain longer in the library than is necessary to obtain a copy of the newest fiction or a current periodical. This is discouraging but not surprising, when one

considers the bustle and commotion which, because of cramped quarters, the library presents during the crowded hours when the room is filled with students from the schools and colleges. Perhaps in the near future we may be able to offer peace and quiet in a home-like atmosphere where grown-ups too will be glad to tarry.

*North End.* A library which serves but a small percent of its population is either in a wrong location or pursuing a wrong policy. The location of the North End Branch is above criticism. The work that can be done here for children is real and great. At a low estimate there are ten thousand children who should use the branch in this district; the children here have double the time to form the library habit and become readers between the ages of 7 and 11, than they have between 10 and 14. At 10 years the little sister is often housekeeper, nurse, and earning money at home; her brother is a small merchant, blacking shoes, and helping in the family store or running errands. These children have little time to go out of their way for books, but they make the time if the desire to read is there. Although at times the branch may resemble a kindergarten and seem to hand out more easy books than others, we must put our literary dignity aside and step into line with the firm group of educators who ask the early years of a child's life for formative purposes. A splendid spirit of coöperation exists between the library and all masters, teachers, social agencies, etc. In fact the spirit of everyone is splendid and friendly; this helps to make our job an interesting and happy one.

*Roslindale.* Reference work is a very important feature of our service to the community. Pupils from the grammar and high schools and students from many colleges come to seek information on all sorts of subjects. Very few people of foreign birth come to the library, very seldom anyone who cannot speak English, and never anyone who cannot understand English.

*Roxbury.* In July 1873, this branch was first opened for service to the public. For fifty years it has stood with its invitation of books for recreation and study in a neighborhood that has gradually changed in character. From one of families of

American ancestry owning their homes, it has become one of apartments and tenements occupied by descendants of families to many of which English was not the mother tongue. As expressions of appreciation of our service from persons no longer residents of this section are frequently received, it is hoped that our present service is also satisfactory and that the future will give even greater opportunities of usefulness.

*South Boston.* The library gives assistance to men taking out naturalization papers and has often guided and directed the reading of others who have not time to go to night or day school. Books on Americanization and easy English reach the parents through the children, who usually take one book for themselves and one for father or mother. The reading room is used and appreciated, especially by men, many of whom work nights, while others are temporarily out of employment or are too old to work. Many persons who work in the district come to the library at the noon hour to read the magazines.

*South End.* The branch library has grown so completely into the life of the people as to be a very vital part of the community. It is a place where all come for study and for recreational reading, for help and for advice. The newcomers in the neighborhood, especially the foreigner who knows nothing of our free institutions, are welcomed and helped. The library is a common ground where all meet with equal privileges, where light and heat and good reading attract, where courtesy and good will help, and where the stranger is made welcome and the older resident feels a proprietary interest.

*Uphams Corner.* The members of the Post of the American Legion, which has headquarters in our building, use the library and have many hotly contested arguments.

*Warren Street.* The branch serves a district in which between forty and fifty thousand Jewish people reside; the remainder of our reading public is composed of Irish, Italian, Swedish, Polish, Hungarian, French, German, and a few Chinese.

*West End.* To many whose homes are small bedrooms in a lodging house — and this section is largely made up of lodging



houses — the library is a place of wholesome recreation. Many a pleasant friendship has found its beginning in the library.

*West Roxbury.* This library is a community centre and it tries in every way to coöperate with all the schools, churches and clubs in the district.

*Andrew Square.* This district is without any local social agency; there is nothing to fill the need of a recreational centre for clubs, classes, etc. We have to make up for this as best we can. The children at least come to the library. They congregate to study their lessons, to read, and to relate happenings at school.

*City Point.* The people here appreciate their library privilege. They are generous and seem grateful for the effort made to serve them. The library's service to its public is reflected not only in the upward curve of statistical and registration records, but in the personal attitude of the community towards its library.

*Faneuil.* Material is furnished constantly for lectures and debates. This work has caused a steady demand for books from the Central Library; at times people are unreasonable, but as a rule appreciative. The chief calls have been for psychology and English literature. The automobile books placed on the shelves last summer have proved useful.

*Jeffries Point.* With five schools in this section, having an enrollment of some three thousand children, a great amount of reference work is done. The reading room has a large collection of books for children. The teachers do their utmost to co-operate with the library working for the advancement of their pupils.

*Mattapan.* The children are most enthusiastic about their reading room, especially the Jewish children who show an uncommon interest. The Jewish people comprise quite a large proportion of the community, although we have Irish, Swedish, Italian and Armenian patrons.

*Neponset.* Although the majority of our adult readers do not make a habit of using the library as a reading room, we always have at least a few newspaper and periodical readers,



or an employee from Lawley's Shipyard, reading up on ship-building. The reference work with the older boys and girls plays an important part in our service to the public.

*Orient Heights.* Since we have so few adults using the library, we devote almost our entire attention to the children and place the library as much as possible at the service of the schools, both public and parochial. The teachers and sisters insist that the children procure library cards and then give them assignments in home work which require looking up material in the library.

*Parker Hill.* The circumstances of the people in this district are such that books for ownership are not beyond their desires, but beyond their pocketbooks; these people are readers and thinkers, who find much intellectual solace in a book. To many boys, who at fourteen believed that knowledge was "usless stuff," but who have found at twenty that knowledge is "dollars and cents," the library has been of incalculable advantage. For these young men the Library has built up a splendid collection of books on elementary subjects.

*Roxbury Crossing.* Although most of our patrons are children, the adults from an important factor in our work. Ours is a very cosmopolitan community bringing into contact with each other Armenians, Greeks, Jews, Italians, Swedes, Norwegians, Irish and Negroes. Through their children they obtain books in easy English and naturalization.

*Tyler Street.* The staff of the library is composed of assistants who speak some of the many languages used in the district, for example, Arabic, Italian, Yiddish and Greek. There is a fairly good collection of books in these languages for circulation, and a splendid collection of Americanization books, used principally by the pupils of the Quincy Evening School.

#### THE NEW WEST ROXBURY BRANCH LIBRARY.

On Monday, April 17, 1922, the new West Roxbury Branch building was dedicated with appropriate ceremony. The building is most attractive and convenient, consisting of a one-story



WEST ROXBURY BRANCH, READING ROOM.



brick structure, designed in the Colonial style with a flat roof. The main floor consists of one large room  $38 \times 88$  feet and 16 feet high, with an ell in the rear containing the librarian's office, work room, and stairway to the basement of the building, the latter so arranged that books from the Central Library may be brought to the rear entrance and taken out of the building at a point between the first story and the basement. The entrance from the porch to the main floor is through a vestibule which is heated when necessary in order to make it comfortable for those working at the charging counter, located directly opposite the entrance.

The floor space of the main room is divided by partitions glazed with plate glass from a point three feet above the floor. The central portion,  $22 \times 32$  feet, is used for the delivery room; the reading rooms on either side are  $33 \times 38$  feet. Bookcases are arranged around the walls of each room, with three shelf cases along the partitions. As the partitions are only 10 feet high, the impression received on entering the building is that of one large room.

The first story is finished in oak, stained medium brown to the height of the bookcases; above the bookcases the plaster walls are panelled with wood mouldings and painted a warm gray. The finished floor of the entire first story is cork tile,  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch thick, cemented direct to the concrete floor.

The basement has a hall with a seating capacity of 225, anterooms, lunch and rest rooms, toilet rooms, two storage rooms for books, heater and coal storage. All the basement rooms are well lighted. The main entrance of the lecture hall is direct from the street at one end of the building.

The only wood used in the structure is the standing finish and floor rafters, the latter supported on steel girders. The foundation walls are of cement, the wall above of brick — water struck brick being used for all face work — and the first floor of reinforced concrete. The basement floors are of concrete finished with granolithic. The stairs from the basement to the first floor are of iron.

The Superintendent of Buildings and the Library Depart-

ment received every consideration and the heartiest coöperation during the construction of the building from the architect, Mr. Oscar A. Thayer, a resident of West Roxbury devoted to the interests of the community.

#### LECTURES AND EXHIBITIONS.

Lists of the free lectures in the Library courses of the season, of the lectures given in the Library under the auspices of various civic associations, and of the public exhibitions held at the Central Library during the year, may be found on pages 67-70 of the Appendix. As in former years, the record covers the period from the fall of 1922 through the spring of 1923. The Lecture Hall at the Central Library has been used again and again to its capacity. In addition to the Library lectures given on Thursday evenings and Sunday afternoons, the public meetings and lectures on alternate Monday afternoons of the Ruskin Club, and the meetings of many civic associations, the Hall was used every week-day evening by the various extension courses offered by the State Board of Education. Through death and for other causes, several changes were made in the lecture program as originally published in the October *Bulletin* of the Library. On account of the large number of disappointed persons who could not gain admittance to the Hall, two lectures were graciously repeated, as follows:

On November 29, The Passion Play of 1922, by Dr. J. C. Bowker.

On February 11, The High History of the Holy Grail, by Rev. W. N. Stinson, S.J.

The lectures on music were illustrated by the lecturers with the use of the piano, or by church choirs or college glee clubs, who gave their services, including transportation.

Attention is again called to the vital need of improvement in the ventilation of the Lecture Hall. So evil are the present conditions that unless relief can be given, it would seem advisable to consider the discontinuance of public meetings until the necessary repairs shall have been made. The dingy appear-

ance of the room itself calls for fresh paint. The need of a motion picture equipment grows more apparent each year. Offers of several interesting lectures have been declined, because the picture rolls illustrating them could not be displayed.

#### STAFF INSTRUCTION.

Five members of the Library Staff availed themselves of the privilege of registering for the second term, January–March, 1922, in the Library School of Simmons College, for the following courses; three in library work with children, one in reference, and one in history.

Fifty-five members of the staff attended the twenty lectures on the Outlines of English Literature, a special survey for librarians, by Prof. R. E. Rogers of Massachusetts Institute of Technology, presented on request through the Extension Division of the State Board of Education, beginning January 6, 1922. Twenty-eight took the examination at the end of the course, thirteen of whom passed and received certificates from the Commonwealth. So much enthusiasm resulted from Prof Rogers' course that two additional series of lectures on the History of American Literature were announced for workers in public and special libraries, beginning November 17, 1922. The first was a course of twenty lectures on American Literature from its beginnings through the Civil War; the second, a supplementary course of ten lectures on American Literature since 1870. These courses were made possible through the coöperation of the Extension Division as last year. Fifty members of the staff enrolled for the first course of lectures. In general the younger assistants who felt the need of this particular instruction in the performance of their library work, were encouraged to attend, in preference to those who had already passed a Grade B examination, or whose duties do not bring them in direct contact with the public.

The outcome of the series of Informal Talks and Round Table Conferences planned for the younger members of the staff weekly from January 5 to April 27 inclusive, was most successful. The following talks were interspersed each month with informal

discussions at which the assistants were encouraged to express their opinions and at which papers by the pupils were read and criticised: The library assistant in the eyes of the public, Mr. George H. Tripp; How I became a librarian, Mrs. Bertha V. Hartzell; What is a librarian, Mr. George H. Evans; The working child and the library, Miss Louise C. Keyes; The ethics of a librarian, Mr. Truman R. Temple; Amenities of a children's librarian, Mrs. Mary E. Root; Loyalty: an essential trait, Mr. Harold T. Dougherty; What one can get from a summer library course, Miss Harriet E. Howe; The library assistant as a reader, Mr. Robert K. Shaw; The apprentice system in Springfield, Mr. Hiller C. Wellman; Duties and rewards of a village librarian, Mrs. Evelyn L. Warren; Your future in the library profession, Mr. Charles F. D. Belden.

No examination was held, but as an incentive to take the experiment seriously and in the hope of bringing out unrecognized abilities, the Librarian offered a prize of a book for the best paper on the addresses of each month, and at the end of the course two cash prizes, \$15 and \$10 respectively, for the two best papers on the lectures of the entire course.

A course of ten lectures in Elementary Reference Work, given by senior members of the Staff to junior assistants in the Central Library and general assistants in the branches and reading rooms, began on November 21, 1922. In order to obviate the absence from duty of too many assistants at a time, the lecture course will be repeated, beginning February 8, 1923.

Nineteen library assistants attended the first presentation of the course, and at the examination, held at its conclusion, sixteen passed.

It is a pleasure to record that the custodian of the Patent Room, Central Library, attended, last Fall, a course of ten voluntary lectures on Patent Law at the Law School of Boston University.

#### CONCLUSION.

Note is properly here made of the service records of the following employees who have recently left the Library.

On March 27, 1922, Mr. John F. Locke of the Shelf Department, who entered the service of the Library on December 10, 1894, was retired on half pay under the provisions of Chapter 113 of the Acts and Resolves of the General Court of Massachusetts in the year 1911, providing for the retirement of veterans of the Civil War. Mr. Locke was a faithful, much loved assistant; he carries with him the good will and respect of all his colleagues.

On May 15, Miss Barbara Duncan, in charge of the Allen A. Brown Music Room, who entered the service in December 1907, resigned to become librarian of the Music Library of the Eastman School of Music, University of Rochester, New York. Miss Duncan is particularly qualified to meet this opportunity for enlarged responsibility, and her associates bespeak success for her in the new and attractive position to which she has been called. Mr. Richard G. Appel was appointed temporarily in charge of the Music Room on August 21, 1922.

On August 15, Mr. Langdon L. Ward, Supervisor of Branches, who entered service in December 1896, died. His death, although not unexpected, came as a shock to all his associates. He was a kindly, conscientious, learned gentleman, devoted to the problems of his department. His loss will long be felt in library circles. Miss Edith Guerrier, Supervisor of Circulation, was appointed on October 20, 1922, to the position of Supervisor of Branches left vacant through the death of Mr. Ward.

On September 1, Miss Josephine E. Kenney, Librarian of the North End Branch who entered service in June 1906, resigned to accept appointment to the librarianship of the Jamaica Training School for Teachers, Jamaica, Long Island. Miss Kenney had been on leave of absence from the Boston Public Library since September 7, 1921. On September 8, Miss Florence M. Bethune, Librarian of the West End Branch, who entered service in 1903, resigned and soon thereafter married. Both Miss Kenney and Miss Bethune were valued and efficient administrators and librarians.

Acknowledgment is again gratefully made for the continued



coöperation of those members of the staff of the Library Department who, in their several places, have faithfully performed the routine work of the institution. I record also my continuing appreciation of the efficient service of Mr. Otto Fleischner, the Assistant Librarian.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES F. D. BELDEN,  
*Librarian.*

## APPENDIX.

### TABLES OF CENTRAL, BRANCH AND READING ROOM CIRCULATION.

	1917-18	1918-19	1919-20	1920-21	1921-22	1922-23
Central Library .	439,827	441,582	507,038	551,190	591,640	590,655
BRANCHES:						
Brighton .	58,038	58,764	71,720	75,273	79,397	83,238
Charlestown .	78,549	70,828	80,900	91,455	98,780	101,140
Codman Square	87,038	78,694	85,246	91,721	101,792	103,810
Dorchester .	59,719	60,513	68,173	68,873	70,396	67,810
East Boston .	101,119	94,971	115,062	111,813	120,234	120,993
Hyde Park .	75,726	70,363	78,444	79,592	80,855	82,498
Jamaica Plain .	48,978	48,306	55,771	58,228	60,507	59,970
Mt. Bowdoin .	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	83,376
North End .	51,406	42,123	59,676	69,846	85,187	96,359
Roslindale .	.....	.....	66,798	73,310	80,879	82,597
Roxbury .	74,919	71,418	74,024	80,469	80,933	79,125
South Boston .	91,503	89,478	100,602	104,979	121,194	124,809
South End .	94,470	87,465	94,386	99,751	97,403	99,543
Upham's Corner .	108,170	100,009	111,186	113,846	119,375	120,257
Warren Street .	.....	.....	88,720	94,991	104,412	108,665
West End .	112,255	107,181	114,162	123,137	136,431	142,470
West Roxbury .	47,341	51,519	55,273	54,956	66,470	74,970
READING ROOMS:						
Allston .	38,257	41,217	43,492	41,369	47,328	53,598
Andrew Square .	27,264	27,266	29,726	30,761	33,944	33,413
Boylston Station	33,700	33,163	40,758	44,829	50,033	55,672
City Point .	48,503	43,744	33,784	34,510	30,300	38,381
Faneuil .	22,625	21,571	22,626	24,001	24,913	24,944
Jeffries Point .	.....	.....	.....	.....	10,309	35,925
Lower Mills .	18,546	17,897	18,308	18,040	17,765	17,577
Mattapan .	14,068	14,757	16,351	16,439	20,499	20,497
Mt. Bowdoin .	52,790	53,200	68,177	73,620	80,492	.....
Mt. Pleasant .	40,092	42,690	48,098	49,949	57,562	53,846
Neponset .	15,530	18,474	19,433	22,630	28,789	33,263
Orient Heights .	13,777	14,967	21,133	21,934	27,970	34,240
Parker Hill .	46,250	40,044	52,846	48,891	49,209	49,459
Roslindale .	51,399	56,918	.....	.....	.....	.....
Roxbury Crossing	32,873	37,652	43,232	47,030	57,609	55,911
Tyler Street .	16,632	12,556	15,587	31,343	40,039	39,973
Warren Street .	73,096	78,723	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total .	2,074,455	2,028,053	2,300,732	2,448,776	2,672,646	2,768,984

The net gains and losses in circulation are presented, apart from the totals, in the following form:

	VOLUMES.
1917-18 gain over preceding year . . . . .	24,217
1918-19 loss from preceding year . . . . .	46,402
1919-20 gain over preceding year . . . . .	272,679
1920-21 gain over preceding year . . . . .	148,044
1921-22 gain over preceding year . . . . .	223,870
1922-23 gain over preceding year . . . . .	96,338

USE OF BOOKS.

CIRCULATION FROM CENTRAL BY MONTHS.

	HOME USE DIRECT.	HOME USE THROUGH BRANCH DEPT.	SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS THROUGH BRANCH DEPT.	TOTALS.
February, 1922 . . . . .	39,088	14,904	13,723	67,715
March, " . . . . .	36,804	12,405	15,775	64,984
April, " . . . . .	35,173	12,456	15,575	63,204
May, " . . . . .	29,178	9,242	20,420	58,840
June, " . . . . .	23,468	7,655	15,838	46,961
July, " . . . . .	18,590	5,561	1,980	26,131
August, " . . . . .	20,022	5,261	1,679	26,962
September, " . . . . .	19,443	4,862	1,468	25,773
October, " . . . . .	24,897	6,478	6,420	37,795
November, " . . . . .	33,907	10,569	13,000	57,476
December, " . . . . .	34,179	12,097	14,050	60,326
January, 1923 . . . . .	30,221	9,577	14,690	54,488
Totals . . . . .	344,970	111,067	134,618	590,655

DISTRIBUTION OF TOTAL CIRCULATION.

	HOME USE.	SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS.	TOTAL.
CENTRAL LIBRARY:			
a. Direct . . . . .	344,970		
b. Through branches and reading rooms . . . . .	111,067		
c. Schools and institutions, through Branch Department . . . . .		134,618	590,655
BRANCHES:			
Brighton . . . . .	47,801	35,437	83,238
Charlestown . . . . .	90,232	10,908	101,140
Codman Square . . . . .	97,474	6,336	103,810
Dorchester . . . . .	59,027	8,783	67,810
East Boston . . . . .	101,469	19,524	120,993
Hyde Park . . . . .	76,533	5,965	82,498
Jamaica Plain . . . . .	50,120	9,850	59,970
Mt. Bowdoin . . . . .	83,376	. . . . .	83,376
Carried forward . . . . .	699,451	99,743	799,194

	HOME USE.	SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS.	TOTAL.
<i>Brought forward</i>	699,451	99,743	799,194
Roslindale	78,933	3,664	82,597
Roxbury	62,090	17,035	79,125
South Boston	109,044	15,765	124,809
South End	85,731	13,812	99,543
Upham's Corner	111,568	8,689	120,257
Warren Street	107,470	1,195	108,665
West End	123,287	19,183	142,470
West Roxbury	62,333	12,637	74,970
	1,439,907	191,723	1,631,630
READING ROOMS:			
Allston	53,598	.....	53,598
Andrew Square	33,413	.....	33,413
Boylston Station	55,672	.....	55,672
City Point	38,381	.....	38,381
Faneuil	24,944	.....	24,944
Jeffries Point	35,925	.....	35,925
Lower Mills	17,577	.....	17,577
Mattapan	20,497	.....	20,497
Mt. Pleasant	53,846	.....	53,846
Neponset	33,263	.....	33,263
Orient Heights	34,240	.....	34,240
Parker Hill	49,459	.....	49,459
Roxbury Crossing	55,911	.....	55,911
Tyler Street	38,992	981	39,973
	545,718	981	546,699

These figures are condensed into the following:

*Books lent for home use, including circulation through schools and institutions.*

From Central Library (including Central Library books issued through the branches and reading rooms)	590,655
From branches and reading rooms (excluding books received from Central)	2,178,329
Total	2,768,984

COMPARATIVE.	1921-22.	1922-23.
Central Library circulation:		
Direct home use	354,587	344,970
Through branches and reading rooms	106,502	111,067
	461,089	456,037
Branch Department circulation:		
Direct home use		
From branch collections	1,335,018	1,439,907
From reading rooms	575,930	545,718
	1,910,948	1,985,625
Schools and institutions circulation (including books from Central through the Branch System)	300,609	327,322
	2,672,646	2,768,984

Under the inter-library loan system with other libraries the following use of books for the purpose of serious research is shown for two successive years:

	1921-22.	1922-23.
Volumes lent from this Library to other libraries in Massachusetts	1,315	1,344
Lent to libraries outside of Massachusetts . . . . .	306	282
Totals . . . . .	1,621	1,626
Applications refused:		
From libraries in Massachusetts . . . . .	346	442
From libraries outside of Massachusetts . . . . .	75	110
Totals . . . . .	421	552
Borrowed from other libraries for use here . . . . .	40	28

The classified "home-use" circulation of the branches and reading rooms was as follows, for two successive years:

	1921-22.		1922-23.	
BRANCHES:	VOLUMES.	PERCENTAGE.	VOLUMES.	PERCENTAGE.
Fiction for adults . . . . .	399,455	30	435,081	30.31
Non-fiction for adults . . . . .	144,243	11	152,036	10.6
Juvenile fiction . . . . .	515,342	39	537,641	37.5
Juvenile non-fiction . . . . .	269,694	20	309,622	21.5
READING ROOMS:				
Fiction . . . . .	397,402	69	370,559	67.8
Non-fiction . . . . .	175,528	31	175,159	32.2

At the Central Library the classified "home-use" circulation shows the following percentages:

	1921-22.	1922-23.
	PERCENTAGES.	PERCENTAGES.
Fiction . . . . .	48.66+	47.86+
Non-fiction . . . . .	51.33+	52.13+

## BOOK ACCESSIONS.

### BOOKS ACQUIRED BY PURCHASE.

	1921-22	1922-23.
For the Central Library:		
From City appropriation . . . . .	7,709	7,440
From trust funds income . . . . .	3,461	4,701
	11,170	12,141
For branches and reading rooms:		
From City appropriation . . . . .	53,875	55,311
From trust funds income . . . . .	.....	.....
	53,875	55,311
By Fellowes Athenæum (for the Roxbury Branch) . . . . .	1,140	622
Totals . . . . .	66,185	68,074

Of the 668 volumes acquired by the Fellowes Athenæum during the past year, 622 were purchases, 30 were gifts, and 16 were of periodicals bound.

The following statement includes the accessions by purchase combined with books received by gift or otherwise:

	CENTRAL.	BRANCHES.	TOTAL VOLUMES.
Accessions by purchase (including 622 volumes by Fellowes Athenæum for Roxbury Branch)	12,141	55,933	68,074
Accessions by gift (including 30 volumes through Fellowes Athenæum for Roxbury Branch)	7,369	796	8,165
Accessions by Statistical Department	129	....	129
Accessions by exchange	47	....	47
Accessions by periodicals bound (including 16 through Fellowes Athenæum for Roxbury Branch)	1,664	133	1,797
Accessions of newspapers bound	97	....	97
	<u>21,447</u>	<u>56,862</u>	<u>78,309</u>

#### THE CATALOGUE.

	VOLS. AND PARTS.	TITLES.	VOLS. AND PARTS.	TITLES.
Catalogued (new):	1921-22.		1922-23.	
Central Library Catalogue	31,022	14,608	25,533	15,731
Serials	4,040	4,127		
Branches	46,591	39,512	48,007	39,937
Recatalogued	18,872	6,129	14,056	7,178
Totals	<u>100,525</u>	<u>60,249</u>	<u>91,723</u>	<u>62,846</u>

#### SHELF DEPARTMENT.

The number of volumes shelved and thus made available for public use, taken from the report of the Shelf Department, is:

Placed on the Central Library shelves during the year:	
General collection, new books (including continuations)	21,822
Special collection, new books and transfers	1,868
Books reported lost or missing in previous years, but now found, transfers from branches, etc.	1,765
	<u>25,455</u>
Removed from Central Library shelves during the year:	
Books reported lost or missing, condemned copies not yet replaced, transfers, etc.	11,438
Net gain, Central Library	<u>14,017</u>
Net gain at branches (including reading rooms)	<u>11,866</u>
Net gain, entire library system	<u>25,883</u>

The total number of volumes available for public use at the end of each year since the formation of the Library is shown in the following statement:

1852-53	.	.	.	.	9,688	1887	.	.	.	.	.	492,956
1853-54	.	.	.	.	16,221	1888	.	.	.	.	.	505,872
1854-55	.	.	.	.	22,617	1889	.	.	.	.	.	520,508
1855-56	.	.	.	.	28,080	1890	.	.	.	.	.	536,027
1856-57	.	.	.	.	34,896	1891	.	.	.	.	.	556,283
1857-58	.	.	.	.	70,851	1892	.	.	.	.	.	576,237
1858-59	.	.	.	.	78,043	1893	.	.	.	.	.	597,152
1859-60	.	.	.	.	85,031	1894	.	.	.	.	.	610,375
1860-61	.	.	.	.	97,386	1895	.	.	.	.	.	628,297
1861-62	.	.	.	.	105,034	1896-97	.	.	.	.	.	663,763
1862-63	.	.	.	.	110,563	1897-98	.	.	.	.	.	698,888
1863-64	.	.	.	.	116,934	1898-99	.	.	.	.	.	716,050
1864-65	.	.	.	.	123,016	1899-1900	.	.	.	.	.	746,383
1865-66	.	.	.	.	130,678	1900-01	.	.	.	.	.	781,377
1866-67	.	.	.	.	136,080	1901-02	.	.	.	.	.	812,264
1867-68	.	.	.	.	144,092	1902-03	.	.	.	.	.	835,904
1868-69	.	.	.	.	152,796	1903-04	.	.	.	.	.	848,884
1869-70	.	.	.	.	160,573	1904-05	.	.	.	.	.	871,050
1870-71	.	.	.	.	179,250	1905-06	.	.	.	.	.	878,933
1871-72	.	.	.	.	192,958	1906-07	.	.	.	.	.	903,349
1872-73	.	.	.	.	209,456	1907-08	.	.	.	.	.	922,348
1873-74	.	.	.	.	260,550	1908-09	.	.	.	.	.	941,024
1874-75	.	.	.	.	276,918	1909-10	.	.	.	.	.	961,522
1875-76	.	.	.	.	297,873	1910-11	.	.	.	.	.	987,268
1876-77	.	.	.	.	312,010	1911-12	.	.	.	.	.	1,006,717
1877-78	.	.	.	.	345,734	1912-13	.	.	.	.	.	1,049,011
1878-79	.	.	.	.	360,963	1913-14	.	.	.	.	.	1,067,103
1879-80	.	.	.	.	377,225	1914-15	.	.	.	.	.	1,098,702
1880-81	.	.	.	.	390,982	1915-16	.	.	.	.	.	1,121,747
1881-82	.	.	.	.	404,221	1916-17	.	.	.	.	.	1,139,682
1882-83	.	.	.	.	422,116	1917-18	.	.	.	.	.	1,157,326
1883-84	.	.	.	.	438,594	1918-19	.	.	.	.	.	1,173,695
1884-85	.	.	.	.	453,947	1919-20	.	.	.	.	.	1,197,498
1885	.	.	.	.	460,993	1920-21	.	.	.	.	.	1,224,510
1886	.	.	.	.	479,421	1921-22	.	.	.	.	.	1,258,211
						1922-23	.	.	.	.	.	1,284,094
Volumes in entire library system					.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1,284,094
Volumes in the branches and reading rooms					.	.	.	.	.	.	.	325,163

These volumes are located as follows:

Central Library	.	.	.	958,931	Roxbury:		
Brighton	.	.	.	17,308	Fellowes Athenæum	30,973	
Charlestown	.	.	.	15,414	Owned by city	5,462	
Codman Square	.	.	.	8,393	Total, Roxbury	.	36,435
Dorchester	.	.	.	17,930	South Boston	.	18,152
East Boston	.	.	.	20,725	South End	.	14,052
Hyde Park	.	.	.	32,124	Upham's Corner	.	11,844
Jamaica Plain	.	.	.	17,285	Warren Street	.	7,504
Mt. Bowdoin	.	.	.	7,699	West End	.	20,458
North End	.	.	.	8,975	West Roxbury	.	11,731
Roslindale	.	.	.	10,619	Allston	.	3,973

Andrew Square . . . .	3,628	Mt. Pleasant . . . .	5,423
Boylston Station . . . .	4,290	Neponset . . . .	2,575
City Point . . . .	5,600	Orient Heights . . . .	3,480
Faneuil . . . .	3,405	Parker Hill . . . .	2,344
Jeffries Point . . . .	1,894	Roxbury Crossing . . . .	4,261
Lower Mills . . . .	1,684	Tyler Street . . . .	4,089
Mattapan . . . .	1,869		

### THE PRINTING DEPARTMENT.

	1921-22.	1922-23.
Requisitions received and filled . . . . .	337	299
Card Catalogue (Central Library):		
Titles exclusive of Stack 4 (Printing Dept. count) . . . . .	15,438	12,816
Cards finished (exclusive of extras) . . . . .	214,898	184,666
Card Catalogue (Branches):		
Titles (Printing Dept. count) . . . . .	656	480
Cards finished (exclusive of extras) . . . . .	30,960	27,967
Signs . . . . .	1,775	1,603
Blank forms (numbered series) . . . . .	3,695,995	4,202,276
Forms, circulars and sundries (outside numbered series) . . . . .	46,767	30,352
Catalogues and pamphlets . . . . .	162,460	177,000

### THE BINDERY.

	1921-22.	1922-23.
Number of volumes bound in various styles . . . . .	44,587	48,544
Magazines stitched . . . . .	239	265
Volumes repaired . . . . .	2,436	2,141
Volumes guarded . . . . .	1,381	1,169
Maps mounted . . . . .	93	64
Photographs and engravings mounted . . . . .	4,492	2,929
Library publications folded, stitched and trimmed . . . . .	163,747	175,532

### THE LECTURES OF 1922-1923.

All lectures, except those marked with an asterisk (\*) were illustrated with lantern slides.

#### 1922

- Oct. 5. America in the Pacific. Sarah Ellen Palmer.
- Oct. 8. \*The Creative Genius of the American Negro. James Weldon Johnson.
- Oct. 9. Florence: her Art, Literature and Social Life. Miss Lilian Whiting. (Ruskin Club.)
- Oct. 14. Flower Arrangement. Clarke Thayer. (N. E. Home Economics Association.)
- Oct. 15. Christopher Columbus. Rev. William M. Stinson, S.J.
- Oct. 19. A Trip through the Land of Evangeline. Rev. A. T. Kempton.



- Oct. 22. The Times of Shakespeare. Frank Chouteau Brown.  
(Drama League Course.)
- Oct. 23. What's What in Books. John Clair Minot. (Ruskin Club.)
- Oct. 26. The American and Philippino Achievements in the Philippines.  
Mme. J. C. DeVeyra.
- Oct. 29. Interesting Experiences with Birds and Animals. Ernest  
Harold Baynes.
- Nov. 2. Transportation. James M. Kimball.
- Nov. 5. Old Opera Days and Opera Singers. Francis Henry Wade.
- Nov. 9. Our National Forests. Philip W. Ayres. (Field and Forest  
Club Course.)
- Nov. 12. Life in the Australian Bush. Captain William Payne.
- Nov. 13. Ruskin: John the Baptist of Social Reform. Rev. Davis  
Wasgatt Clarke, D.D. (Ruskin Club.)
- Nov. 16. §The Passion Play of 1922. John C. Bowker.
- Nov. 18. The Social Bond of Everyday Art. Herbert J. Spinder.  
(N. E. Home Economics Association.)
- Nov. 19. Famous Productions of Shakespeare. F. W. C. Hersey.  
(Drama League Course.)
- Nov. 23. The Romance of Arizona. W. D. O'Neil.
- Nov. 26. \*The Music of the Western Church. Wallace Goodrich.  
With musical illustrations.
- Nov. 27. Sunny Italy. Mrs. James Frederick Hopkins. (Ruskin  
Club.)
- Dec. 3. \*Modern Anglo-Irish Poets. Norreys Jephson O'Connor, A.M.
- Dec. 7. From Sea to Sea in South America. Emma G. Cummings.
- Dec. 10. \*Message of Music, or the Art Work of the Future. Mme.  
Beale Morey. With musical illustrations.
- Dec. 11. Ruskin Memories in Italy and England. Mrs. May Smith  
Dean. (Ruskin Club.)
- Dec. 14. White Mountain Trails. Walter Collins O'Kane. (Field  
and Forest Club Course.)
- Dec. 16. \*Intelligent Buying of Clothing. Harriet Ainsworth. (N. E.  
Home Economics Association.)
- Dec. 17. \*Franz Liszt, the Man and the Artist. Lecture-recital. John  
Orth.
- Dec. 21. Luca della Robbia. Charles Theodore Carruth.
- Dec. 21. \*Reading: "The Christmas Carol." Prof. Walter Bradley  
Tripp. (Dickens Fellowship.)
- Dec. 24. \*The Development of Mechanical Music. Geoffrey O'Hara.  
With musical illustrations.
- Dec. 28. Stained Glass as an Artist's Medium. Charles J. Connick.
- Dec. 31. Japan: her People and her Art. Marie A. Moore.

§ Repeated on November 29.

1923

- Jan. 4. \*Modern Development in Radio Communication: Wireless Telephony, etc. Emory Leon Chaffee.
- Jan. 7. Trip through the National Parks and the Northwest. Charles H. Bayley.
- Jan. 11. The Camp Fire Girl: through Nature to Womanhood. Rev. Charles W. Casson. (Field and Forest Club Course.)
- Jan. 13. \*Food as a Factor in Social Work. Bailey B. Burritt. (N. E. Home Economics Association.)
- Jan. 14. \*Music in Adversity. Archibald Thompson Davison. With musical illustrations.
- Jan. 18. Some Early American Arts. Edwin James Hipkiss. (Under the auspices of the Museum of Fine Arts.)
- Jan. 21. \*Shakespeare in the Twentieth Century. E. Charlton Black. (Drama League Course.)
- Jan. 22. The Wonderland of America. Mrs. Arthur Dudley Ropes. (Ruskin Club.)
- Jan. 25. Opening the Pyramids of Ethiopian Kings. Ashton Sanborn. (Under the auspices of the Museum of Fine Arts.)
- Jan. 28. §The High History of the Holy Grail. Rev. William M. Stinson, S.J.
- Feb. 1. Boston in Fiction. Martha A. S. Shannon.
- Feb. 4. \*The Orators and Oratory of Shakespeare. Henry Lawrence Southwick. (Drama League Course.)
- Feb. 8. \*The Anniversary of John Ruskin's Birth. Rev. Joseph P. MacCarthy, Ph.D. (Ruskin Club.)
- Feb. 8. On the Ridgepole of the Continent: first Lessons in Mountaineering. Marcus Morton, Jr. (Field and Forest Club Course.)
- Feb. 11. \*What is Poetry to you? Horace G. Wadlin.
- Feb. 12. \*Wordsworth. Mrs. Carolyn Hillman. (Ruskin Club.)
- Feb. 15. Washington's Visits to Boston. Charles F. Read.
- Feb. 18. \*The Problem of Popularizing Good Music. Leo R. Lewis. With musical illustrations.
- Feb. 25. \*Portia the Wife. Martha Moore Avery.
- Feb. 26. \*Washington and Franklin: their Part in the Triumph of the American Revolution. Joseph M. Whipple. (Ruskin Club.)
- Mar. 1. City Planning. Elisabeth M. Herlihy.
- Mar. 4. \*Romance of Sicily. Vincent Ravi-Booth.
- Mar. 8. Some Less Familiar Portions of Germany. Harvey N. Shepard. (Field and Forest Club Course.)
- Mar. 10. Design all about us. Grace A. Cornell. (N. E. Home Economics Association.)

§ Repeated on February 11.

- Mar. 11. \*Poetry in the Making. John Livingston Lowes.  
 Mar. 12. Ruskin's Significance To-Day. Agnes Knox Black. (Ruskin Club.)  
 Mar. 15. Recent Municipal Activities in Boston. His Honor, the Mayor, James M. Curley.  
 Mar. 18. \*Back to Shakespeare: the Technique of the Spoken Drama. Robert E. Rogers. (Drama League Course.)  
 Mar. 19. Stamp Collecting as a Hobby. Ralph N. Hall. (Boston Philatelic Society.)  
 Mar. 22. Bird Banding: the Why and the How. Charles B. Floyd.  
 Mar. 25. Getting Back to Nature. How we Answered the Call of the Wild. Manly B. Townsend.  
 Mar. 26. \*Finding Culture for Oneself. Henry Austin Higgins. (Ruskin Club.)  
 Mar. 29. The Fountains of Rome. Cav. L. Melano Rossi.  
 Apr. 1. Dramatizing the Master Dramatist: Recent Plays upon Shakespeare. Albert H. Gilmer. (Drama League Course.)  
 Apr. 5. The Art of Drawing: as a Means to an End, and as an End in Itself. Alfred Mansfield Brooks. (Under the auspices of the Museum of Fine Arts.)  
 Apr. 9. Spain. Ellen Page. (Ruskin Club.)  
 Apr. 23. \*The American Drama. Gordon Hillman. (Ruskin Club.)

PUBLIC EXHIBITIONS, 1922-1923.

1922

- May. Boston in 1822.  
 July. Early School-books and Boston School-houses.  
 Boston, 1817-1921. (Books, prints and drawings.)  
 Aug. The Graphic Arts.  
 Sept. Hazard's Red Cross painting "For Humanity."  
 Samuel Adams.  
 Recent Accessions in the Fine Arts.  
 Oct. The Work of the American Negro.  
 History of Transportation. American Locomotives.  
 Nov. Semi-Centennial of the Great Fire of Boston. Boston Fires.  
 Forestry.  
 The Beggar's Opera.  
 Modern Stagecraft.  
 Photographs by Hamilton Revelle.  
 Dec. Mothercraft and Child Welfare.  
 The White Mountains of New Hampshire.  
 Luca della Robbia. The Nativity in Art.  
 The Art of Stained Glass.

1923

- Jan. Early American Art.  
Egypt.  
The Drama and Eric Pape's original drawings for Chinese stage-  
settings of "The Flame of Love."
- Feb. Mountains of America.  
George Washington.  
"House Beautiful" Cover Design Competition.  
Bicentenary of Death of Sir Christopher Wren.
- Mar. Modern Boston. (Public buildings, parks, etc.)  
Boston Philatelic Society.  
Fountains of Italy.
- April. Reproductions of Drawings by Old Masters.  
Massachusetts Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals  
Poster-Design Competition.  
American Merchant Marine Library Association Book-plate  
Competition.  
McGreevey Collection of Baseball Photographs.  
Original paintings of Book-illustrations by N. C. Wyeth.

#### CHIEFS OF DEPARTMENTS AND LIBRARIANS OF BRANCHES AND READING-ROOMS.

As at present organized, the various departments of the Library and the branches and reading-rooms are in charge of the following persons:

Otto Fleischner, Assistant Librarian.  
Samuel A. Chevalier, Chief of Catalogue Department.  
William G. T. Roffe, in charge of Shelf Department.  
Theodosia E. Macurdy, Chief of Ordering Department.  
Frank H. Chase, Custodian of Bates Hall Reference Department.  
Pierce E. Buckley, Custodian of Bates Hall Centre Desk, Patent and  
Newspaper Departments.  
Frederic Serex, in charge of Newspaper Room.  
William J. Ennis, in charge of Patent Room.  
Winthrop H. Chenery, Chief of Special Libraries Department.  
Walter Rowlands, in charge of Fine Arts Division.  
George S. Maynard, in charge of Technical Division.  
Richard G. Appel, in charge of Allen A. Brown Music Room.  
Francis J. Hannigan, Custodian of Periodical Room.  
Frank C. Blaisdell, Chief of Issue Department.  
John H. Reardon, in charge of Information Office.  
Edith Guerrier, Supervisor of Branches.

Alice V. Stevens, Chief of the Central Branch Issue Division.  
 Marian A. McCarthy, in charge of Branch Binding.  
 Robert F. Dixon, in charge of Shipping Division.  
 Timothy J. Mackin, Custodian of Stock Room.  
 Alice M. Jordan, Supervisor of Work with Children.  
 Mary C. Toy, Children's Librarian, Central Library.  
 A. Frances Rogers, Chief of Registration Department.  
 Horace L. Wheeler, in charge of Statistical Department.  
 Mary H. Rollins, Editor of Publications.  
 Francis Watts Lee, Chief of Printing Department.  
 James W. Kenney, Chief of Bindery Department.  
 Henry Niederauer, Chief of Engineer and Janitor Department.  
 Marian W. Brackett, Librarian of Brighton Branch.  
 Katherine S. Rogan, Librarian of Charlestown Branch.  
 Elizabeth P. Ross, Librarian of Codman Square Branch.  
 Elizabeth T. Reed, Librarian of Dorchester Branch.  
 Laura M. Cross, Librarian of East Boston Branch.  
 Elizabeth Ainsworth, Librarian of Hyde Park Branch.  
 Mary P. Swain, Librarian of Jamaica Plain Branch.  
 Beatrice M. Flanagan, acting Librarian of Mt. Bowdoin Branch.  
 Mary F. Curley, acting Librarian of North End Branch.  
 Grace L. Murray, Librarian of Roslindale Branch.  
 Helen M. Bell, Librarian of Roxbury Branch.  
 M. Florence Cufflin, Librarian of South Boston Branch.  
 Margaret A. Sheridan, Librarian of South End Branch.  
 Mary F. Kelley, Librarian of Upham's Corner Branch.  
 Beatrice C. Maguire, Librarian of Warren Street Branch.  
 Fanny Goldstein, Librarian of West End Branch.  
 Carrie L. Morse, Librarian of West Roxbury Branch.  
 Mary A. Hill, Librarian of Lower Mills Reading Room.  
 Emma G. Capewell, Librarian of Lower Mills Reading Rooms.  
 Ellen C. McShane, acting Librarian of Neponset Reading Room.  
 Katherine F. Muldoon, Librarian of Allston Reading Room.  
 Margaret H. Reid, Librarian of Mt. Pleasant Reading Room.  
 Edith F. Pendleton, acting Librarian of Tyler Street Reading Room.  
 Katrina M. Sather, Librarian of Roxbury Crossing Reading Room.  
 Edith R. Nickerson, Librarian of Boylston Station Reading Room.  
 Mary Golden, acting Librarian of Andrew Square Reading Room.  
 Catherine F. Flannery, Librarian of Orient Heights Reading Room.  
 Alice L. Murphy, Librarian of City Point Reading Room.  
 Mary M. Sullivan, Librarian of Parker Hill Reading Room.  
 Gertrude L. Connell, Librarian of Faneuil Reading Room.  
 Margaret A. Calnan, acting Librarian of Jeffries Point Reading Room.

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13. Hyde
14. North
15. Coden
16. Roalir
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18. Mon

- A. Lower
- D. Malta
- E. Nepon
- G. Allato
- H. Fancu
- N. Mt. P
- P. Tyler
- SE. Rozbe
- T. Boylat
- V. City F
- X. Parks
- Y. Andin
- Z. Orient
- C. Jeffrin

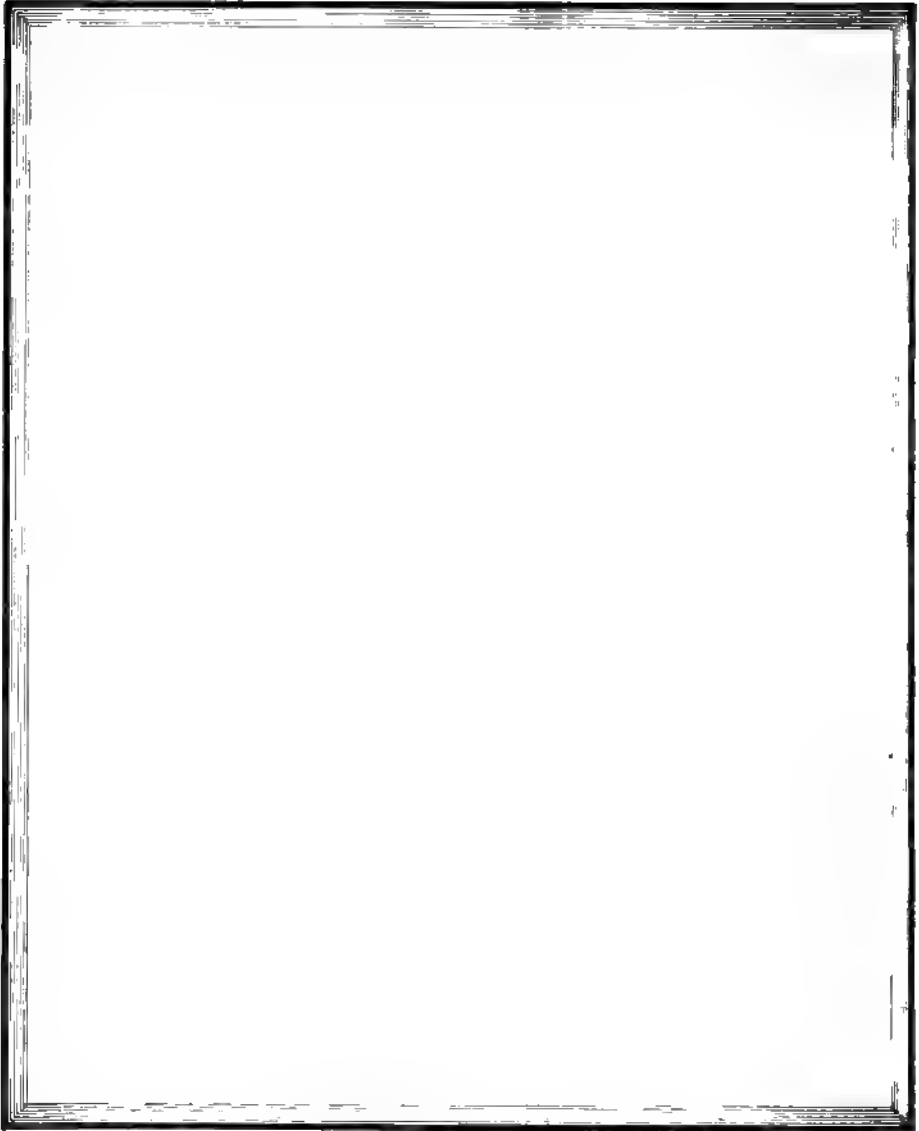












CENTRAL LIBRARY: BATES HALL.



SEVENTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
TRUSTEES  
OF THE  
PUBLIC LIBRARY  
OF THE  
CITY OF BOSTON  
1923-1924

BOSTON  
PUBLISHED BY THE TRUSTEES  
1924

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON: PRINTING DEPARTMENT.

MP6: 7.15.24: 2500.

**TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**ON FEBRUARY 1, 1924.**

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**ARTHUR T. CONNOLLY, *President.***

**Term expires April 30, 1927.**

**LOUIS E. KIRSTEIN.**

**Term expires April 30, 1924.**

**MICHAEL J. MURRAY.**

**Term expires April 30, 1926.**

**WILLIAM A. GASTON.**

**Term expires April 30, 1925.**

**GUY W. CURRIER.**

**Term expires April 30, 1928.**

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**DIRECTOR.**

**CHARLES F. D. BELDEN.**



## ORGANIZATION OF THE LIBRARY DEPARTMENT.

The Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, organized in 1852, are now incorporated under the provisions of Chapter 114, of the Acts of 1878, as amended. The Board for 1852 was a preliminary organization; that for 1853 made the first annual report. At first the Board consisted of one alderman and one common-councilman and five citizens at large, until 1867, when a revised ordinance made it consist of one alderman, two common-councilmen and six citizens at large, two of whom retired, unless re-elected, each year, while the members from the City Council were elected yearly. In 1878 the organization of the Board was changed to include one alderman, one councilman, and five citizens at large, as before 1867; and in 1885, by the provisions of the amended city charter, the representation of the City Government upon the Board by an alderman and a councilman was abolished, leaving the Board as at present, consisting of five citizens at large, appointed by the Mayor, for five-year terms, the term of one member expiring each year. The following citizens at large have been members of the Board since its organization in 1852:

ABBOTT, SAMUEL APPLETON BROWNE, A.M., 1879-95.  
APPLETON, THOMAS GOLD, A.M., 1852-56.  
BENTON, JOSIAH HENRY, LL.D., 1894-1917.  
BIGELOW, JOHN PRESCOTT, A.M., 1852-68.  
BOWDITCH, HENRY INGERSOLL, M.D., 1865-67.  
BOWDITCH, HENRY PICKERING, M.D., 1894-1902.  
BOYLE, THOMAS FRANCIS, 1902-12.  
BRAMAN, JARVIS DWIGHT, 1869-72.  
BRETT, JOHN ANDREW, LL.B., 1912-16.  
CARR, SAMUEL, 1895-96, 1908-22.  
CHASE, GEORGE BIGELOW, A.M., 1876-85.  
CLARKE, JAMES FREEMAN, D.D., 1879-88.  
COAKLEY, DANIEL HENRY, 1917-19.  
CONNOLLY, ARTHUR THEODORE, 1916-  
CURRIER, GUY WILBUR, 1922-  
CURTIS, DANIEL SARGENT, A.M., 1873-75.  
DE NORMANDIE, JAMES, D.D., 1895-1908.  
DWIGHT, THOMAS, M.D., 1899-1908.  
EVERETT, EDWARD, LL.D., 1852-64.  
FROTHINGHAM, RICHARD, LL.D., 1875-79.  
GASTON, WILLIAM ALEXANDER, LL.B., 1923-  
GREEN, SAMUEL ABBOTT, M.D., 1868-78.  
GREENOUGH, WILLIAM WHITWELL, 1856-88.  
HAYNES, HENRY WILLIAMSON, A.M., 1880-94.  
HILLIARD, GEORGE STILLMAN, LL.D., 1872-75; 76-77.  
KENNEY, WILLIAM FRANCIS, A.M., 1908-1921.  
KIRSTEIN, LOUIS EDWARD, 1919-  
LEWIS, WESTON, 1868-79.  
LEWIS, WINSLOW, M.D., 1867.

LINCOLN, SOLOMON, A.M., 1897–1907.  
 MANN, ALEXANDER, D.D., 1908–1923.  
 MORTON, ELLIS WESLEY, 1870–73.  
 MURRAY, MICHAEL JOSEPH, LL.B., 1921–  
 PIERCE, PHINEAS, 1888–94.  
 PRINCE, FREDERICK OCTAVIUS, A.M., 1888–99.  
 PUTNAM, GEORGE, D.D., 1868–77.  
 RICHARDS, WILLIAM REUBEN, A.M., 1889–95.  
 SHURTLEFF, NATHANIEL BRADSTREET, LL.D., 1852–68.  
 THOMAS, BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, LL.D., 1877–78.  
 TICKNOR, GEORGE, LL.D., 1852–66.  
 WALKER, FRANCIS AMASA, LL.D., 1896.  
 WHIPPLE, EDWIN PERCY, A.M., 1867–70.  
 WHITMORE, WILLIAM HENRY, A.M., 1885–88.  
 WINSOR, JUSTIN, LL.D., 1867–68.

The HON. EDWARD EVERETT was President of the Board from 1852 to 1864; GEORGE TICKNOR, in 1865; WILLIAM W. GREENOUGH, from 1866 to April, 1888; PROF. HENRY W. HAYNES, from May 7, 1888, to May 12, 1888; SAMUEL A. B. ABBOTT, May 12, 1888, to April 30, 1895; HON. F. O. PRINCE, October 8, 1895, to May 8, 1899; SOLOMON LINCOLN, May 12, 1899, to October 15, 1907; REV. JAMES DE NORMANDIE, January 31, 1908, to May 8, 1908; JOSIAH H. BENTON, May 8, 1908, to February 6, 1917; WILLIAM F. KENNEY, February 13, 1917, to May 7, 1920; REV. ALEXANDER MANN, May 7, 1920, to January 22, 1923; MSGR. ARTHUR T. CONNOLLY, since April 13, 1923.

## LIBRARIANS.

(From 1858 to 1877, the chief executive officer was entitled Superintendent.)

CAPEN, EDWARD, *Librarian*, May 13, 1852 – December 16, 1874.  
 JEWETT, CHARLES C., *Superintendent*, 1858 – January 9, 1868.  
 WINSOR, JUSTIN, LL.D., *Superintendent*, February 25, 1868 – September 30, 1877.  
 GREEN, SAMUEL A., M.D., *Trustee, Acting Librarian*, October 1, 1877 – September 30, 1878.  
 CHAMBERLAIN, MELLEN, LL.D., *Librarian*, October 1, 1878 – September 30, 1890.  
 DWIGHT, THEODORE F., *Librarian*, April 13, 1892 – April 30, 1894.  
 PUTNAM, HERBERT, LL.D., *Librarian*, February 11, 1895 – April 30, 1899.  
 WHITNEY, JAMES L., A.M., *Acting Librarian*, March 31, 1899 – December 21, 1899; *Librarian*, December 22, 1899 – January 31, 1903.  
 WADLIN, HORACE G., LL.D., *Librarian*, February 1, 1903 – March 15, 1917; *Acting Librarian*, March 15, 1917 – June 15, 1917.  
 BELDEN, CHARLES F. D., LL.B., *Director*, since March 15, 1917.

## LIBRARY SYSTEM, FEBRUARY 1, 1924.

DEPARTMENTS.	¶OPENED.
†Central Library, Copley Square . . . . .	May 2, 1854
†East Boston Branch, 276-282 Meridian St. . . . .	Jan. 28, 1871
§South Boston Branch, 372 Broadway . . . . .	May 1, 1872
Fellowes Athenaeum Branch, 46 Millmont St. . . . .	July 16, 1873
†Charlestown Branch, Monument Square . . . . .	Jan. 5, 1874
†Brighton Branch, Academy Hill Road . . . . .	Jan. 5, 1874
‡Dorchester Branch, Arcadia, cor. Adams St. . . . .	Jan. 25, 1875
‡Lower Mills Branch, Washington, cor. Richmond St. . . . .	*June 7, 1875
‡South End Branch, Shawmut Ave. and West Brookline St. . . . .	Aug., 1877
†Jamaica Plain Branch, Sedgwick, cor. South St. . . . .	Sept., 1877
‡Roslindale Branch, Washington, cor. Ashland St. . . . .	*Dec. 3, 1878
†West Roxbury Branch, Centre, near Mt. Vernon St. . . . .	*Jan. 6, 1880
§Mattapan Branch, 7 Babson St. . . . .	*Dec. 27, 1881
†North End Branch, 3a North Bennet St. . . . .	*Oct., 1882
§Neponset Branch, 362 Neponset Ave. . . . .	*Jan. 1, 1883
§Mt. Bowdoin Branch, Washington, cor. Eldon St. . . . .	*Nov. 1, 1886
§Allston Branch, 138 Brighton Ave. . . . .	*Mar. 11, 1889
‡Codman Square Branch, Washington, cor. Norfolk St. . . . .	*Nov. 12, 1890
‡Mt. Pleasant Branch, Vine, cor. Dudley St. . . . .	*Apr. 29, 1892
‡Tyler Street Branch, Tyler, cor. Oak St. . . . .	*Jan. 16, 1896
†West End Branch, Cambridge, cor. Lynde St. . . . .	Feb. 1, 1896
‡Uphams Corner Branch, Columbia Rd., cor. Bird St. . . . .	*Mar. 16, 1896
§Warren Street Branch, 392 Warren St. . . . .	*May 1, 1896
§Roxbury Crossing Branch, 208 Ruggles St. . . . .	*Jan. 18, 1897
§Boylston Station Branch, The Lamartine, Depot Square . . . . .	*Nov. 1, 1897
§Orient Heights Branch, 1030 Bennington St. . . . .	*June 25, 1901
‡City Point Branch, Municipal Bldg., Broadway . . . . .	*July 18, 1906
§Parker Hill Branch, 1518 Tremont St. . . . .	*July 15, 1907
†Hyde Park Branch, Harvard Ave., cor. Winthrop St. . . . .	Jan. 1, 1912
†Faneuil Branch, 100 Brooks St. . . . .	*Mar. 4, 1914
§Andrew Square Branch, 396 Dorchester St. . . . .	*Mar. 5, 1914
§Jeffries Point Branch, 195 Webster St. . . . .	*Oct. 15, 1921

¶ In the case of the Central Library and some of the branches the opening was in a different location from that now occupied. \* As a delivery station. † In building owned by City, and exclusively devoted to library uses. ‡ In City building, in part devoted to other municipal uses. § Occupies rented rooms. || The lessee of the Fellowes Athenaeum, a private library association.

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To HIS HONOR, JAMES M. CURLEY,  
*Mayor of the City of Boston.*

SIR:—The Board of Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston presents the following report of its condition and affairs for the year ending January 31, 1924, being the seventy-second annual report.

#### ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD.

On April 13, 1923, the Right Reverend Monsignor Arthur T. Connolly was elected President to succeed Bishop Alexander Mann resigned, and Mr. Louis E. Kirstein, Vice President in Monsignor Connolly's place.

Mr. Guy W. Currier was reappointed a trustee for the term ending April 30, 1928; and Mr. William A. Gaston was appointed a trustee for the term ending April 30, 1925, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Bishop Mann.

The Board organized at the annual meeting on May 18, 1923, by the election of Monsignor Connolly as President, Mr. Kirstein, Vice President, and Della Jean Deery, Clerk.

On October 26, the Board approved a change in the title of "Librarian" to that of "Director".

#### RECEIPTS OF THE LIBRARY.

The receipts of the Library which are to be expended by the Trustees in the maintenance of the Library consist of the annual appropriation by the Mayor and City Council, and the income from Trust Funds given to the Trustees but invested by the City Treasurer. During the past year these receipts were

Annual appropriation . . . . .	\$779,935.00
Special appropriation . . . . .	50,000.00
Income from Trust Funds . . . . .	25,037.00
Unexpended balance of Trust Funds income of previous year . . . . .	69,710.00
Total . . . . .	<u>\$924,682.00</u>

Receipts which are accounted for and paid into the City Treasury for general municipal purposes, during the year have been as follows

From fines . . . . .	\$15,612.47
From sales of catalogues, etc. . . . .	39.04
From commissions on telephone stations . . . . .	566.12
From sale of waste paper . . . . .	550.64
From payments for lost books . . . . .	1,116.61
Interest on bank deposits . . . . .	67.77
Total . . . . .	<u>\$17,892.65</u>

#### ESTIMATES FOR 1924-25.

The estimates of the Trustees for the maintenance of the Library for the coming year, forwarded to Your Honor in budget form, were \$905,614, of which \$629,421 is for personal service and \$276,193 for general maintenance.

#### ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY.

During the year the Library has added 62,166 volumes by purchase as against 68,074 in 1922. Of this number 51,329 were placed in the branches as against 55,311 in 1922; and 10,837 in the Central Library as against 12,141 in 1922; 57,052 were bought from the City appropriation at an average cost of \$1.35 per volume, and 4,032 from Trust Funds income at an average cost of \$4.14 per volume.

The total expenditure for books and periodicals was \$109,405.29 as against \$122,916.07 in 1922. Of this amount \$90,000 represents the expenditure from City appropriation as against \$100,000 in 1922, and \$19,077.56 from Trust Funds income as against \$21,883.27 in 1922. The cost of periodicals was \$9,351 as against \$9,568 in 1922.

#### CIRCULATION.

The total circulation of books for home use, including circulation through schools and institutions was as follows:

From Central Library, including Central Library books issued through the branches	576,997
From branches, excluding books received from Central Library	2,345,864
Total	<u>2,922,861</u>

#### REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS.

On May 18, 1923, the Trustees were granted a special appropriation of \$50,000 for equipping and furnishing the Addition to the Central Library Building; and on May 28, a contract was authorized with the Library Bureau for two additional tiers of steel stacks, amounting to \$32,998. This work was completed and accepted on January 12, 1924. Contracts for heating and lighting these stacks are now under consideration.

Other improvements and repairs include a new ventilating system for the Lecture Hall, Central Library, at a cost of \$4,164; the replacement of certain plumbing at the Central Library, \$2,902; new electric light fixtures, Special Libraries Department, \$683; new boiler at the West End Branch, \$1,818; painting at the Hyde Park Branch, \$954; and repairs to wall, West End Branch, \$698.

#### BRANCHES.

On February 1, 1923, the South End Branch was opened for public use at 9 o'clock a.m. in the new Municipal Building at the corner of Shawmut Avenue and West Brookline Street.

On April 13, on request of Your Honor, the Board had a conference with the School Committee, represented by Mr. Richard J. Lane, Chairman, and Mr. Jeremiah E. Burke, Superintendent of Schools, relative to the establishment of branch libraries in school buildings. A tentative plan was agreed upon, to be worked out later in connection with the erection of new school buildings, with special reference to districts where there are at present inadequate library facilities.

On May 18, the Board approved a change in the title of reading room to that of branch; and a grading of all branches as major and minor branches.



### BRANCH FOR BUSINESS MEN.

The importance of the establishment of a business men's branch has been for many years considered by the Trustees as an imperative step which the Library should take. The ideal location for such a branch, in the judgment of the Trustees, would be in the new Chamber of Commerce Building. If up to the present this much called for and really necessary extension of the Boston Public Library system has not materialized, it is not the fault of the Trustees. All that is required is the selection of a place for such a branch and the necessary appropriation by the city for its maintenance.

Already a sister city in the State of Rhode Island has taken this step with other cities, and quite recently the city of Pittsburgh, following the good example, has appropriated \$10,000 for the establishment and maintenance of a down-town branch of the Carnegie Library. The Trustees realize that the cost of space for the project in the business center of the city is almost prohibitive, but we cannot believe that the civic pride of Boston merchants can long allow such a fact to stand in the way of its accomplishment.

If a single room sufficiently large to contain selected material of particular interest to persons engaged in commercial and technical pursuits were secured, it would not be long before its utility and necessity would become so apparent that more extensive quarters would be demanded as a necessity.

While the number of books kept in a business branch must, owing to limits of space, be restricted, still a direct telephone to the Central Library and a daily delivery service would make it possible to draw freely from the extensive collection of reference works at the main Library.

### GIFTS AND BEQUESTS.

On May 4, a check for \$964.30 was received from the administrator of the estate of Sarah E. Pratt, late of Boston, on account of the distribution of the residue of said estate, and was added to the original bequest and funded as the "Sarah E. Pratt

Fund" for the purchase of books for the Dorchester Branch.

On June 29 the Trustees received a check from the estate of Mary Elizabeth Stewart in the amount of \$3500, in final settlement of a bequest under the will of Miss Stewart, which was funded as the "Mary Elizabeth Stewart Fund" the income to be applied to the purchase of books and other library material.

On December 28 the Trustees received notice of a gift to the city for the benefit of the Mattapan Branch, in the sum of \$11,781.44; which was funded as the "Oakland Hall Trust Fund", the income to be applied to the purchase of books and other library material for the Mattapan Branch.

Other important gifts include a marble bust of Henry James, given by the sculptor, Captain Francis Derwent Wood, R.A. of London, England; a collection of 219 volumes of French history and literature of French writers of eminence, given by Mr. Charles F. Lebon, former professor of French in the English High School; a marble statue by Larkin Goldsmith Mead called "Echo", given by Mrs. Henry S. Shaw of Milton for the West End Branch; an oil painting by Marcus Waterman called "Hayfields" (July) bequeathed to the Library by his brother William C. Waterman; and many other gifts largely of single works, which are partially recounted in the report of the Director. The Trustees renew the hope that the Library may be the continued object of large gifts and bequests. It is from such sources that the institution must derive the more valuable additions which give to it a high and permanent rank.

#### RETIREMENT OF MR. OTTO FLEISCHNER.

During the year the Library has lost the services of many employees on account of the Pension Law, among them Mr. Otto Fleischner, Assistant Librarian. At the meeting of the Board held on December 14, 1923, the following Resolution was adopted by the Trustees and order'd spread upon the records:

**RESOLVED:** that in the retirement of Otto Fleischner the Public Library of the City of Boston has been deprived of the services of a devoted and capable official who, for more than thirty years, contributed much to the life and progress of the institution. Mr. Fleischner entered

the service of the Library on November 23, 1891. Soon after the occupation of the Copley Square building in 1895 he was chosen to organize the Special Libraries Department which has since been conducted along the lines he inaugurated. On January 12, 1900, Mr. Fleischner was advanced to the position of Assistant Librarian. In this post, under three successive librarians, he labored earnestly and indefatigably in the service of the Library, carrying many responsibilities easily and efficiently. He has withdrawn from the Library at the age of seventy, still full of energy and zest in life. The Trustees assure to Mr. Fleischner their enduring esteem and for his continuing happiness extend their hearty good wishes.

**RESOLVED:** that the Board of Trustees accord to him the freedom of the alcoves with the customary privileges; that this minute be placed upon the records and that a copy of the same be sent to Mr. Fleischner.

#### TABLE OF TRUST FUNDS.

A detailed statement of these funds, and the income therefrom, is contained in the report of the City Auditor, but a condensed statement of them is as follows:

FUND.	AMOUNT.	RESTRICTIONS OF GIFT.
Artz . . . .	\$ 10,000.00	For the purchase of valuable and rare editions of the writings, either in verse or prose, of American and of foreign authors, "to be known as the Longfellow Memorial Collection."
Bates . . . .	50,000.00	To buy "books of permanent value."
Bigelow . . . .	1,000.00	Purchase of books.
Hillings . . . .	100,000.00	For the purchase of books.
Bowditch . . . .	10,000.00	For "the purchase of books of permanent value and authority in mathematics and astronomy," to be added to the Bowditch Collection.
Bradlee . . . .	1,000.00	Unrestricted.
Center . . . .	39,543.14	Unrestricted.
"Children's" (under Benton Will) . . . .	103,000.00	For the purchase of books for the use of the young. Available only in years when the City appropriates for the maintenance of the Library at least 3% of the amount available for department expenses from taxes and income in said City.
Clement . . . .	2,000.00	For the purchase of books.
Cushman . . . .	2,854.41	For the purchase of books upon landscape gardening.
Cutter . . . .	4,140.00	For the purchase of books and for binding for the Abram E. Cutter Collection.
"Elizabeth" (under Machett Will) . . . .	25,000.00	For the purchase of books of "permanent value and authority."
Ford . . . .	6,000.00	Unrestricted.
Carried forward	<u>\$954,597.55</u>	

<i>Brought forward</i>	\$354,537.55	
Franklin Club .	1,000.00	Books of permanent value, preferably books on government and political economy.
Green . . .	2,000.00	Books relating to American history.
Charlotte Harris .	10,000.00	Books for Charlestown Branch, published before 1850.
Thomas B. Harris	1,000.00	For benefit of the Charlestown Branch.
Hyde . . .	3,632.40	Unrestricted.
Knapp . . .	10,000.00	For the purchase of books.
Abbott Lawrence .	10,000.00	Books having a permanent value.
Edward Lawrence .	500.00	"To hold and apply the income and so much of the principal as they [the Trustees] may choose to the purchase of special books of reference to be kept and used only at the Charlestown Branch of said Public Library."
Lewis . . .	5,000.00	For the purchase of old and rare books to be added to the John A. Lewis Library.
Loring . . .	500.00	Memorial Fund, from the income of which books are to be bought for the West End Branch.
Mead . . .	2,500.00	Unrestricted.
Oakland Hall .	11,781.44	Books and library material for the Mattapan Branch.
O'Reilly . . .	1,000.00	From the Papyrus Club for the purchase of books as a memorial of John Boyle O'Reilly.
Phillips . . .	30,000.00	"To the maintenance of a free public library." "Purchase of books."
Pierce . . .	5,000.00	"Books of permanent value for the Bates Hall."
Pratt . . .	1,464.30	For the benefit of the Dorchester Branch.
Scholfield . . .	61,800.00	To be used for books of permanent value.
Sewall . . .	25,000.00	For the purchase of books.
Skinner . . .	51,732.14	Unrestricted.
South Boston .	100.00	For benefit of the South Boston Branch.
Mary E. Stewart .	3,500.00	Unrestricted.
Ticknor . . .	4,000.00	Books in Spanish and Portuguese, five years old in some one edition.
Todd . . .	50,000.00	The income to be expended annually for current newspapers of this and other countries.
Townsend . . .	4,000.00	Books five years old in some one edition.
Treadwell . . .	13,987.69	Unrestricted.
Tufts . . .	10,131.77	For the benefit of the Charlestown Branch.
Twentieth Regiment	5,000.00	"For the purchase of books of a military and patriotic character, to be placed in the alcove appropriated as a Memorial of the Twentieth Regiment."
Wales . . .	5,000.00	For the purchase of books.
Alice L. Whitney .	5,000.00	For the benefit of sick and needy employees and the purchase of books.
James L. Whitney .	8,645.84	For books and manuscripts.
Wilson . . .	1,000.00	For the purchase of books.
<b>Total . . .</b>	<b>\$698,813.13</b>	

### EXAMINING COMMITTEE.

The Trustees call special attention to the report of the Examining Committee which is appended hereto and included, as required by the city ordinance, as a part of this report. Many of the suggestions and recommendations embodied in the same have the sympathy and general approval of the Board. Those who served as members of the Examining Committee for the fiscal year are

Rev. William J. Barry  
Mrs. I. Tucker Burr  
Paul F. Butler, M.D.  
Mr. Francis M. Carroll  
Miss Rosanna M. Dowd  
Mrs. Carl Dreyfus  
Mr. Henry Gideon  
Mr. Edward S. Goulston

Miss Heloise E. Hersey  
Mr. Vincent A. Keenan  
Hon. Frank Leveroni  
Mrs. Marguerite J. Martin  
William Jason Mixter, M.D.  
Harold A. Murphy, M.D.  
Miss Mary Ranney

### CONCLUSION.

The Trustees have held regular semi-monthly meetings during the year except during the summer months, for the transaction of the business of the Department. They feel that the Library service has been well administered during the year, and that this is due to the industry, intelligence, and loyalty with which the Director and the employees of the Library have performed their respective duties.

ARTHUR T. CONNOLLY,  
LOUIS E. KIRSTEIN,  
MICHAEL J. MURRAY,  
GUY W. CURRIER,  
WILLIAM A. GASTON.



## BALANCE SHEET, RECEIPTS AND

DR.

## CENTRAL LIBRARY AND BRANCHES:

## To expenditures for

Permanent employees (exclusive of Printing and Binding Departments) . . . . .	\$362,003.58
Temporary employees . . . . .	123,208.51

\$485,212.09

## Service other than personal

Advertising . . . . .	72.50
Contract work (Printing outside) . . . . .	164.65
Postage . . . . .	1,216.14
Transportation of persons . . . . .	223.76
Cartage and freight . . . . .	12,211.78
Light and power . . . . .	8,923.36
Rent, taxes and water . . . . .	15,853.00
Premium on surety bond . . . . .	22.50
Communication . . . . .	1,239.07
Cleaning, towels, etc. . . . .	1,128.43
Removal of snow . . . . .	288.36
Examinations . . . . .	126.00
Expert and architect . . . . .	1,488.77
Fees . . . . .	11.10
Extermination of insects . . . . .	3.15
Boiler inspection . . . . .	31.00
General plant repairs . . . . .	17,494.85

60,498.42

## To expenditures for equipment

Furniture and fittings . . . . .	3,168.34
Office . . . . .	813.76
Motorless vehicles . . . . .	180.00
Tools and instruments . . . . .	651.48

## Books:

City appropriation . . . . .	\$80,193.96
Trust funds income . . . . .	18,951.40

99,145.36

## Newspapers:

City appropriation . . . . .	1,160.63
Todd fund . . . . .	1,615.34

2,775.97

Periodicals . . . . .	9,043.59
General plant equipment . . . . .	618.04

116,396.54

## To expenditures for supplies

Office . . . . .	3,685.54
Food and ice . . . . .	349.59
Fuel . . . . .	25,050.79
Forage and animals . . . . .	9.80
Medical . . . . .	18.54
Laundry, cleaning and toilet . . . . .	1,108.16
Agricultural . . . . .	98.84
Chemicals and disinfectants . . . . .	58.00
General plant . . . . .	1,746.47

32,125.73

Carried forward . . . . .

\$694,232.78

## EXPENSES, JANUARY 31, 1924.

CR.

By CITY APPROPRIATION 1923-1924 . . . . .	\$779,935.00	
Income from Trust funds . . . . .	24,205.83	
Income from James L. Whitney bibliographic account . . . . .	700.00	
Interest on deposit in London . . . . .	131.69	
	<hr/>	\$804,972.52
By BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD FROM 1923:		
Trust funds income, City Treasury . . . . .	50,934.27	
Trust funds income on deposit in London . . . . .	9,650.18	
City appropriation on deposit in London . . . . .	4,565.72	
James L. Whitney bibliographic account . . . . .	4,560.61	
Library Building Addition, equipping and furnishing . . . . .	50,000.00	
	<hr/>	119,710.78

Carried forward . . . . . 

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 \$816,683.30



## BALANCE SHEET, RECEIPTS AND

DR.

<i>Brought forward</i> . . . . .		\$694,232.78
To expenditures for material		
Building . . . . .	\$ 105.00	
Electric . . . . .	1,675.78	
General plant . . . . .	2,767.00	
		<u>4,547.78</u>
Special items		
To expenditures from Alice M. Whitney Fund . . . . .	316.00	
Pensions . . . . .	777.87	
		<u>1,093.87</u>
BINDING DEPARTMENT:		
Salaries . . . . .	57,289.55	
Stock . . . . .	4,475.18	
Equipment . . . . .	94.25	
Cleaning . . . . .	314.19	
Repairs . . . . .	43.40	
Light . . . . .	46.23	
Small supplies . . . . .	20.90	
		<u>62,283.70</u>
PRINTING DEPARTMENT:		
Salaries . . . . .	12,104.93	
Stock . . . . .	3,822.54	
Equipment . . . . .	761.16	
Contract work . . . . .	203.47	
Cleaning . . . . .	314.17	
Repairs . . . . .	152.74	
Light . . . . .	31.98	
Small supplies . . . . .	14.48	
		<u>17,405.47</u>
SPECIAL APPROPRIATION: Library Building Addition		
Equipping and furnishing . . . . .	34,196.50	
		<u>34,196.50</u>
To AMOUNT PAID INTO CITY TREASURY:		
From fines . . . . .	15,612.47	
Sales of catalogues, bulletins and lists . . . . .	39.04	
Commission on telephone stations . . . . .	506.12	
Sale of waste paper . . . . .	550.64	
Payments for lost books . . . . .	1,116.61	
Interest on deposit . . . . .	67.77	
		<u>17,892.65</u>
To BALANCE, JANUARY 31, 1924:		
Trust funds income on deposit in London . . . . .	17,292.45	
City appropriation on deposit in London . . . . .	4,166.35	
Trust funds income balance, City Treasury . . . . .	46,615.09	
James L. Whitney bibliographic account . . . . .	5,260.61	
Interest on deposit in London . . . . .	131.69	
		<u>73,466.19</u>
BALANCE UNEXPENDED:		
General appropriation . . . . .	21,653.51	
Special appropriation, Library Bldg. Addition . . . . .	15,803.50	
		<u>37,457.01</u>
		<u>\$942,575.95</u>

## EXPENSES, JANUARY 31, 1924.

		CR.
<i>Brought forward</i>	.	\$816,683.30
By RECEIPTS:		
From fines	15,612.47	
Sales of catalogues, bulletins and lists	39.04	
Commission on telephone stations	506.12	
Sale of waste paper	550.64	
Payments for lost books	1,116.61	
Interest on deposit	67.77	
	<hr/>	17,892.65

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\$942,575.95

# REPORT OF THE EXAMINING COMMITTEE.

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE  
CITY OF BOSTON.

*Gentlemen:*

The Examining Committee takes pleasure in submitting its report for the year ending January 31. 1924.

## INTRODUCTION.

In order to examine properly the various functions of the Boston Public Library as it is now operating, the work of the Examining Committee was divided among the following sub-committees:

Branches.

Administration and Finance.

Books and Catalogues.

Printing and Binding.

Special Libraries.

Children's Department and Work with Schools.

These sub-committees have worked this year, as in the past, with the exception of the one on Branches. This committee was considered of such importance that it was decided to have all the members of the Examining Committee serve on it, so that as many visits as possible might be made to the branches; and in that way more vital and constructive suggestions might be received. The Committee believes this change is more than justified, and that it has obtained many suggestions for the good of the entire branch system.

## BRANCHES.

The Sub-Committee on Branches comprises this year all the members of the Examining Committee, and is accordingly able

to base its report on more than sixty visits to the various branches. This unusually large number of visits marks suitably the Seventieth Anniversary of the appointment of this historic committee, — “to examine the Library and make report of its condition to the Trustees.” The hundreds of men and women who have served as Examiners have testified again and again, since 1853, to the kindling of interest and faith in the Library which has resulted from their widened knowledge of the service that it renders to the city. We acknowledge once more this year that we are debtors to the Library, rather than the Library to us, in our study of its task and its needs.

The Committee finds thirty-one branches of the Library in operation. Of these, nine are housed in buildings owned by the Library; nine in rooms in municipal buildings; and thirteen in buildings or rooms leased from private owners. Not one of the buildings owned by the Library is unsuitable or unattractive. But the conditions of many of the other buildings are a blot on the good name of the Library. The first recommendation of the Committee is that the Library should be given larger freedom in the municipal buildings, — freedom, namely, to keep clean. At present, entrances are cluttered and dirty; staircases are defaced and ill-lighted; the janitor’s service to the branch library is in many cases highly unsatisfactory; yet the Library authorities are helpless to improve conditions because these matters are under the care of a separate city department. The branch at City Point is typical of these poor conditions. That at Dorchester is wickedly so. Inadequate rooms, repairs sadly neglected, dirt and disorder reigning in rooms and halls, — and the Library not in the least responsible for the conditions. The difficulty can be remedied by the application of one of the fundamental principles of good housekeeping for public institutions. The Library should be given by the City the money to do its own cleaning, when housed in municipal buildings. Divided responsibility is sure to stand for dirt and disorder. Let the united vote of the Examining Committee persuade the City to remedy this long-standing abuse. The standard of order and beauty held by the Public Library may well be above the standards of other municipal departments. Let it do its rightful

share toward lifting the others up, rather than submit tamely to being dragged down to the lower level.

Of the thirteen branches occupying rooms leased from private owners, much the same report must be made. Only two or three of them are what they ought to be. Many are entirely unsuitable in their plan. A square room where children and adults must be seated near together, where the Librarian has insufficient desk room, where books in the busy hours must be heaped on the floor, where quiet is impossible, — all these bad features have to be accepted as a matter of course in rented rooms. In many places the Librarian has used the utmost ingenuity in making the best of inconveniences. But the City should certainly lose no time in providing better quarters at Roxbury, Mt. Bowdoin, Warren Street, Boylston Station, Jeffries Point, Orient Heights, Mattapan, Roxbury Crossing, Parker Hill, and Andrew Square.

Another evil crying for redress, is the improper lighting of many of the branches. Mere business economy would dictate that an expert on lighting should be employed to go with the Supervisor through the thirty-one branches and prescribe for the difficulties which he will find in 85 per cent of them. It is actual cruelty to tempt children to read in badly lighted rooms. Even the new South End Branch suffers from the lights being too high, and has *no daylight*, — an almost incredible architectural blunder for the housing of a library. The Hyde Park Branch, one of the best branch buildings, has poor lighting in its children's room. The West End Branch, — famous historic building that it is, visited by many as a landmark of Old Boston, — has a lighting system most inadequate, the lights being several feet too high and of too small lighting power. If these most important and modern branches must be judged faulty in lighting, what can we say of the Mattapan, East Boston, Orient Heights, Dorchester, and Lower Mills Branches? Every adult reader is needlessly annoyed by being compelled to work in semi-darkness, and every child is cruelly exposed to severe eye-strain which may involve impaired vision all through life. The City should give the Library a sum of money to employ an expert, and he should

have power to advise and install excellent electric lighting in every room belonging to the Boston Public Library.

The branches show this year, to those of the Committee who have previously visited them, an encouraging improvement in *esprit de corps* among the employees, and an increased ability to render a high grade of community service.

The visitors of the Committee report various details which require attention; but all such matters are reported to the Director and to the Supervisor of Branches, and are dealt with as promptly as possible. The one insuperable obstacle to immediate improvement is the size of the appropriations given to the Library by the City. Some of the suggestions made by the visitors hardly bear further postponement; for example, a change of location of telephone at the West End Branch, a counter desk at the Tyler Street Branch, and new window shades at Upham's Corner. It is not wise public policy to reduce expenditure for such repairs below the figures given in the Library budget.

But this year the Sub-Committee on Branches wishes to throw special emphasis in its report on just three matters. The first is that of improvement in cleanliness and in the keeping up of repairs, by making it possible for the branches in municipal buildings, and so far as possible in rented quarters, to be themselves responsible for cleaning, painting, etc. The second is the problem of proper lighting of all rooms where reading is done. The third, and most important, is the old cry, — "Books, books, and yet more books!" The real test of the work of a great public library is the figures which tell of the growth in circulation. It is difficult to compile enlightening statistics as to the use of books in the library buildings. A great many books may be called for which are little used. On the other hand, with open shelves, large numbers of books are used of which no record is kept. But the circulation is a tolerably reliable measure of the use of the library. During the past five years the *branch* circulation has increased more than 47 per cent.

For the year 1918 it was 1,755,100

For the year 1923 it was 2,594,033

This is an extraordinary record. But it must give us pause when

we discover that the amount of money allotted to the thirty-one branches last year for the purchase of new books and the replacing of old ones was only \$66,500. In purchasing power this is equal, perhaps, to 40,000 volumes, and must suffice for all branch replacements, new books, and deposits, a number wholly inadequate to meet the fast-growing demands of the public. It is only as we ponder on these figures that we begin to realize what is the responsibility of the City of Boston, — to meet a hunger of the mind as keen as any hunger of the body, — to guard against a starvation more bitter and perhaps more dangerous than that following a famine.

If every one of the City authorities could pass an hour in the North End Branch (where the circulation for the year was 107,329), or in the East Boston Branch (with its circulation for the year of 125,968), or in the South Boston Branch (with its circulation for the year of 139,173), or in the West End Branch (with its circulation for the year of 154,267), the appropriating authorities might well be inclined to double the amount of money for the purchase of books, instead of reducing the sum.

The call for "easy reading" for our little, foreign-born children is a loud one. So is the call for books in foreign languages, with English translation. So is the call for all sorts of books supplementary to the work of the schools. Meantime, the great tradition of the past bids us not to forget that high scholarship has not asked in vain the help of the Boston Public Library. Learning does not stand still. We cannot live on the reputation of our noble "Special Collections." By our loyalty to those whose "plain living and high thinking" put us in possession of our treasures, we are bound not to withhold our gifts for to-day's needs of the great scholars. The Public Library ought to find mention in the will of every man and woman who loves books and loves our City. But when bequests are few and far between, the demand for service must be met each year. "Books, books and yet more books!" The cry comes from the scholar whose learning without the great books must go unfed. It comes even as loudly from the little child, who, in this country, may in his turn become a famous scholar or a great inventor, — and who, like the scholar, starves without the printed page. For men, women,

and children, Carlyle's true words gain emphasis with the passing years, — "In books lies the soul of the whole Past Time; the true University of these days is a Collection of Books."

#### ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE.

Under the guidance of its Board of Trustees, with the aid of the Director and his co-workers, the usefulness of the Boston Public Library to the community continues to be enlarged in many directions. This widening of the demand for its service is likely to go on indefinitely, as a result of the modern methods of publicity in making its facilities known. But an increased demand means both more books and more work in handling them. The institution combines the function of a scholarly reference library, called upon to meet the needs of a constituency of some 40,000 students, with those of a lending library seeking to supply the demand of a population of over 750,000 for contemporary fiction and popular non-fiction. The effort required to meet both these needs is a severe one, which taxes to the utmost both the strength of the Library Staff and the available financial resources.

Books to meet the demand for popular consumption may perhaps be furnished from the City appropriation; but larger permanent funds must be provided if the store of works for the use of scholars is to be kept up to the point where it meets the expectations of the students who are drawn to Boston in large numbers by the fame of the Library's collections. It is to be hoped that public-spirited citizens will strengthen by endowment the resources of the Library, already built up to such an extent by the far-sighted generosity of its benefactors in the past.

The increase of labor involved in the growing use of the Library may be met in one of two ways: by enlarging the staff or by laying a heavier burden upon those now employed. It appears that in general the Library has been forced to the second of these courses. During the past five years, the circulation of books has grown  $33\frac{2}{5}$  per cent, while the number of employees has increased only  $13\frac{1}{3}$  per cent. The Committee desires to commend the loyalty of the Library staff, who have done their full share in helping the work of the institution to grow without undue demands upon the City's purse.



The Committee is pleased to state that during the past year many of the recommendations in the report submitted a year ago have been carried into effect, and others are in process of adoption.

One of the problems confronting the Director at the main library is that of providing additional space for the accommodation of new departments and of departments that should be enlarged. The Teachers' Room is inadequate for its purpose: so is the Children's Room. More open shelf room is necessary. If increased space is to be provided, it must be gained either by adding at least two floors to the Annex at a heavy expense, or by utilizing for the service of the public the area now devoted to printing and binding. We recommend that the Trustees and Director consider the possibility of removing the printing and binding departments to some other location, thus releasing for other purposes the space now employed in handling that mechanical work. If this is not feasible, we suggest that the work of printing and binding be done outside the Library at the City Printing Plant, or elsewhere.

In addition to the needs of the Children's Room and the Teachers' Room, the Periodical and Newspaper Rooms, both very widely used, deserve and require better facilities. Here modern equipment is necessary, including new racks for the periodicals and newspapers. Such improvements we believe will be economies in the end. Without presuming to pass judgment upon mechanical devices off-hand, it appears to us that the carrying system is out of date, and that it might well be replaced, if funds can be made available for the purpose.

#### BOOKS AND CATALOGUES.

The most important duty of a library is unquestionably to supply books to the public. However well-organized are the other activities, the conduct of the branches, the perfection of the catalogue and delivery systems, the work connected with the public schools, etc., — all these are futile if the library cannot fulfill its fundamental purpose and offer books in plenty. And this requires money. In 1922 the appropriation from the City for the purchase of books was \$100,000. Last year this amount was cut to \$90,000. Out of this sum must be purchased:

(1) All books for the thirty-one branches and the branch deposit collection which supplies reading matter to the 289 other agencies.

(2) All the circulating books for the Central Library.

(3) All the periodicals (costing nearly \$10,000 yearly).

(4) Some of the newspapers (since the increased cost of these has made the established newspaper fund inadequate).

(5) All photographs and lantern slides.

(6) All books to replace worn-out volumes.

When we remember the advance in price of popular fiction alone and realize that thirty to forty of each of the much-called-for novels must be bought, it is easy to see how rapidly the money is used. While the several trust funds help out considerably, many of these are limited in their use and in general should be left free for the purchase of expensive rare volumes and reference books.

This Committee recommends that in future the City of Boston should appropriate annually a sum large enough to take care of all books needed for circulation both at the Central Library and at the branches.

#### PRINTING AND BINDING.

This Department appears to be efficiently managed and the quality of the production is excellent. Apparently the only need of the Department, and that is not a pressing one, is the exchange of the old linotype machine for a more modern type.

The policy of an appropriation per annum for the purchase of matrices appears to be a wise one and in the opinion of the Committee should be continued.

This Committee repeats the recommendation of the former Committee that a so-called over-sewing or stitching machine should be purchased by the City at a cost of approximately Four Thousand (\$4,000.00) dollars. At the present time there are vacancies caused by resignations which need not be filled in the event that such machine is purchased. The saving of the salaries for these positions will amount in one year to very nearly the cost of the machine. For the branch libraries thirty thousand volumes

are rebound each year, and for this work such a machine would be available at a saving of six cents per volume. There seems to be no valid economic reason why this machine should not be installed.

The reinforcement of books put into effect during the past two years has added greatly to the life of the volume and must represent a great saving to the Library.

The Department appears to be well organized and is in comfortable quarters.

In connection with these two Departments there is a grave question as to whether or not they should be continued as an integral part of the Library. This Committee does not purpose to pass upon this question, but believes it should have the thorough consideration of the Trustees.

#### SPECIAL LIBRARIES.

The Committee on Special Libraries recommends that the tables and cabinets in the West Gallery be rearranged; that two more alcoves of the Special Libraries' Reading Room be opened for the accommodation of an enlarged open shelf collection and that the open shelf architecture collection now located in alcove 14 of the West Gallery be moved into the new alcoves. It also recommends that the school picture work be removed from the Special Libraries catalogue and delivery room to some less public spot; that special cases be provided for the more expensive prints, especially the Medici prints; that the ventilation of the Music Library be improved and that all music books be collected in one room.

#### CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT AND WORK WITH SCHOOLS.

The Library is doing noteworthy work in the cause of Americanization, and for this reason the branches should be near the center of foreign population. The visits of the Librarians to the various evening schools are acquainting many immigrants with the work of the Public Library. In this connection there is a great demand for books printed in both English and a foreign language. The story telling for adults and children is an im-

portant factor in this work. This Committee hopes to see this activity further extended in its usefulness to both foreign and native born.

It is suggested that the schools give instructions in the use of the catalogue. A great saving of time and energy would be effected if the teachers gave more definite instructions as to the books and subjects which the pupils are required to look up. This Committee recommends that Librarians make more frequent visits to the schools and give more talks on the use of the Library, to be followed by class visits to the Library, where the class may have a lesson on the handling of books and the use of the Library. It is further recommended that the schools take advantage of the Librarians' offer to speak at Teachers' meetings, thus revealing the resources of the Library to the teachers. The annual observance of Library Day in the schools would serve to arouse proper appreciation and interest in the Library, one of the greatest and most important of the City institutions. Every visit of a Library employee to a school serves to emphasize the helpful spirit and unselfish devotion of the employees in their effort to introduce the book to the child.

#### AFFILIATION BETWEEN THE LIBRARIES OF GREATER BOSTON.

The General Committee wishes to call to the attention of the Library employees the opportunities for advancement contained in the following statement; and to the general public the articulation between the Boston Public Library and all other libraries in the State.

Through the interlibrary loan system the Boston Public Library is constantly serving other libraries of the Boston district by lending books at their request for the use of residents of the various towns and cities surrounding Boston. The Library also cooperates in this way with the Athenaeum and the State Library, and the various college and university libraries of the region. These libraries are all glad to lend the Boston Public Library books in the same way for the use of Boston readers, and books are frequently borrowed from the Harvard University libraries.

Through the Special Libraries Association, an organization made up of employees of all the libraries, both public and private, in the Boston district, the personnel of the Boston Public Library is brought into intimate relations with the other librarians of Greater Boston. The Library participates in all the work of the Association and there is a close cooperation between this Library and all the others which are represented in its membership.

Announcements of all courses offered by the Library to its employees are sent to the other public libraries of the Boston district and the employees of many of these libraries have taken advantage of the opportunities thus opened.

The Library is more and more regarded as a centre of leadership by the libraries of Greater Boston and it is safe to say that it is sure to take a prominent and helpful part in every activity aimed at the extension of library service in Eastern Massachusetts.

#### INSTRUCTION OFFERED TO EMPLOYEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON.

In the year 1919, Simmons College opened its courses in the academic and Library School departments, free of tuition charge, to members of the Library staff recommended by the Director of the Library. The courses in the College of Business Administration of Boston University have been similarly opened, and about thirty members of the Library staff have since taken one or more courses in these institutions.

In 1919-20 instructors in the Simmons College Library School gave in the Library a course on "Aims and Methods in Library Work," which was taken by thirty-five members of the staff. This was followed, in 1920-21, by a course in "Reference Work," under the instruction of Miss Donnelly, Director of the Simmons College Library School, which was taken by fifteen members of the staff. In 1919-20 Miss Jordan offered a course in "Children's Work" in which some thirty members of the staff were enrolled.

In 1920 the Library offered to its employees a course of twenty-five lectures on the organization and resources of the

Boston Public Library system. The talks were given by the chiefs of the various departments and the Director. The last lecture was on the Free Public Library Commission of the Commonwealth and its work. At the close of the course an examination was held. It was the general feeling that the course was eminently worth while, as it gave a broadened outlook on the work of the institution. It is hoped to repeat the course with some modifications another year.

In the year 1922 there was given a series of informal talks and conferences by the heads of libraries outside Boston, which proved very stimulating to the younger members of the Staff. In the following year a course in "Elementary Reference Work" was given by members of the staff to two sections of the younger employees; a syllabus was prepared for each lecture and there was an examination at the end of the course. About thirty-five members of the staff were enrolled in the course. In the present year two courses are being offered by members of the staff, one in "Advanced Reference Work" and one in "Children's Work"; about fifteen persons are enrolled in each of these courses.

In the past three years, by an arrangement with the University Extension Division of the Massachusetts Department of Education, weekly lecture courses in literature arranged especially for library assistants, have been given in the Lecture Hall of the Library by Professor Robert E. Rogers of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. These lectures have proved exceedingly valuable both to employees of the Boston Public Library and to those of other libraries who have attended the courses in large number. In the course on "English Literature" given in 1922, fifty-five members of Library staff were enrolled; in that on "American Literature" in 1922-23, fifty of the staff enrolled. The course in "Modern Continental Literature" given during the present season, which makes a somewhat narrower appeal, is being taken by thirty-four Library assistants and twenty-eight employees of other libraries.

An innovation is being tried, that promises great success, in the offering of a course in Italian given weekly by Miss Eleanor M. Colleton of the Hancock School. It is hoped that this course will enable many of the thirty employees who are taking it to

qualify for the Library examinations in modern language.

On the whole, the Library is making progress in the adaptation of instruction to the needs of its employees and in interesting those employees in fitting themselves for a higher type of Library service.

The Committee heartily commends these efforts, and hopes the assistants will avail themselves of the opportunities in increasing numbers. The profession of the Librarian is one in which when one stops learning one begins to forget. Only by a constantly refreshed and stimulated interest, both in books and in people, can the Library successfully make its promotions from its own ranks, and at the same time keep abreast of modern scholarship, both in literature and in education. The Librarian should be the strong link between the book — the best thought of the best mind, — and the man, the ruler of himself and of his country in a true democracy.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. That the increased demand for books be met.
2. That the question of obtaining more space for new departments be considered.
3. That the feasibility of the suggested plan of segregating the printing and binding departments from the main plant be debated.
4. That larger appropriations and larger permanent endowment funds be sought.
5. That the old linotype machines be exchanged for more modern ones.
6. That larger freedom in overseeing the cleaning of libraries housed in municipal buildings be granted.
7. That the lighting throughout the whole library system be improved.
8. That the salaries of heads of departments be raised to equal at least those given by other cities containing equally large libraries.
9. That the opening of a business men's library be accomplished as soon as possible. This has been suggested several times

by previous committees, and this Committee hopes the repetition of the demand will emphasize the importance of the request.

CONCLUSION.

The Committee wishes to express its thanks to the Director and employees of the Library, with whom the members of the Committee have had many cordial conferences, as a result of which this report has been made possible.

Adopted as the Report of the Examining Committee, January 28, 1924.



## REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR.

### TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

I respectfully submit my report for the year ending January 31, 1924.

### ACCESSION AND CIRCULATION OF BOOKS.

A gain of 153,877 in the home circulation of books during the year is a matter for satisfaction. The total circulation was 2,922,861 volumes, compared with 2,768,984 for the year previous. Some interesting facts are brought to light by the study of these figures. The branch circulation, exclusive of "deposits" of books sent to schools and institutions, shows a gain of 150,074 volumes and the Central Library a loss in direct home use of 16,142 volumes. There was an increase of 23,762 volumes in the number of books sent from the Central Library and branches to schools and institutions. The loss in circulation from the Central Library would seem to be in line with similar losses in circulation reported by many of the large libraries of the country. In Boston it is believed to be insignificant. Certainly the saturation point of books available for circulation from the Library system has not been reached, as it is estimated that a borrower fails six or eight times out of every ten that he tries to procure from the Library or its branches any modern popular book, fiction or non-fiction. Such books are always out, and the book appropriation does not permit the purchase of additional copies to any extent. A circulation of nearly three million is creditable, but if there were more books, more branches in those sections of the city at present unprovided for, more assistants, competently trained, throughout the system, there is every reason to believe that within a very short time the present circulation could be doubled.

The City appropriation for books for 1921-22 and 1922-23 was \$100,000 each year and the accessions for those years were the largest in the history of the Public Library. For the year 1923-24 the allowance for books was cut to \$90,000, and after setting aside the sums necessary for periodicals and newspapers, the money available for books for the Central Library and its branches was 15 per cent less than for 1922-23. This has resulted in a decreased number of accessions, over 6,000 less than last year, and has thrown on the limited Trust Funds the burden of purchasing many current books for circulation which are customarily bought from the City appropriation.

The total accessions for the year were 75,534 volumes, of which 62,166 were acquired by purchase; 11,134 by gift ("accessioned" and catalogued); 1,959 by binding periodicals; 135 by binding newspapers; 44 by exchange; and 96 through the American Statistical Association. The purchases were distributed as follows: branches, 51,329 volumes, including 5,685 for the Deposit Collection; Central Library, 10,837 volumes, including 4,032 volumes bought with Trust Funds.

The book expenditures for the year total \$109,405.29, of which \$90,000 represents the money appropriated by the City, \$327.73 that drawn from funds on deposit in London, and \$19,077.56 the income derived from Trust Funds.

Further analysis shows that \$79,794.59 (City appropriation) was spent for books, of which \$67,064 went for branch books; that \$9,351.59 was spent for periodicals, of which \$3,457.09 was for branches, and \$5,894.50 for the Central Library; and that the Trust Fund expenditures include \$16,698.17 for books, \$344.20 for lantern slides, \$419.85 for photographs, as well as \$1,615.34 for newspapers. Altogether, the Library spent for books \$96,492.76, against \$110,450.35 in 1922-23.

Of the sum spent for books, the amount expended for new fiction was \$11,090.79 for 7,273 volumes, comprising 468 titles, of which 4,591 were assigned to branches, 1,680 to the Branch Deposit Collection, and 1,002 to the Central Library. The books bought for branches form the major part of the increase for the year and for them the major part of the book appropria-

tion was expended. The ratio was 80 per cent of all books bought, and 84 per cent of the total expenditure. From year to year these books do not vary greatly in character. They comprise the current popular fiction and non-fiction, children's books, reference books and replacement copies of books worn out. But upon these books depend chiefly the growth and popular service of the Library System as expressed in circulation, and any decrease in book purchases reacts unfavorably on this gauge by which libraries are wont to measure their effectiveness.

With lessened resources the buying was concentrated on children's books, those of lower cost, and 31,700 volumes for younger readers were placed in branches and 2,000 in the Central Library. The purchase of many desirable books of reference had to be deferred. That they were needed is perhaps evident from the fact that the only edition of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* possessed by one of the branches is that of 1880.

The closing months of the financial year present many difficulties in the way of keeping up an uninterrupted supply of books for the branches and the Deposit Collection. Since the budget allowance cannot be exceeded nor bills be carried over to the next fiscal year, the ordering of books in large numbers has practically to be suspended during January. Books bought at that time are mainly those which can be charged to Trust Funds for the Central Library. There is greatly needed a book fund available for branch books and independent of the current appropriation, which may be used during this annual period in which orders now have to be curtailed.

The Central Library is fortunate in having on its staff numerous experts in special fields of knowledge; and a continuous flow of recommendations from them, combined with the steady influx of books submitted on approval, insures the receipt of the important current literature of general interest issued in this country and abroad. The acquisition of the exceptional book or collection of books depends upon opportunity and available means. It frequently happens that means are oftener lacking than opportunity, especially as regards material sought at auction sales. It is not the policy of the Boston Library to pay excessive

prices, but the Director does recognize its obligation to acquire and preserve as many of the records relating to the early history of Boston and Massachusetts as its Trust Funds will permit. Among the examples of pre-Revolutionary and Revolutionary matter of local interest recently secured are:

- A Manuscript Minute Book of the meetings held at the Royal Exchange Tavern in Boston, December 21st and 23d, 1773, of the principal dealers in teas, with a list of the dealers attending these meetings.
- A Boston Non-Importation meeting broadside of April 19, 1770, in which "Merchants . . . are desired to meet at Faneuil Hall . . . to receive the report of the Committee of Inspection relative to the most unaccountable . . . conduct of several persons who have imported goods . . . contrary to the agreement — particularly a quantity of Tea."
- A Boston Port Bill broadside letter, May 12, 1774, stating that "An Act has been passed by the British Parliament for blocking up the Harbour of Boston with a Fleet of Ships of War."
- A broadside setting forth the final preparations for an advance against Boston, January 19, 1776, "Whereas General Washington has applied for a temporary reinforcement . . . that the Army investing Boston should be of strength sufficient to act offensively as well as defensively."
- Governor Gage's Amnesty Proclamation, Boston, June 12, 1775, Gage's last warning to the Revolutionists in which he offers in His Majesty's name "most gracious pardon to all who shall lay down their arms excepting only . . . Samuel Adams and John Hancock."
- A Massachusetts Slavery broadside, "House of Representative, Nov. 19, 1754 — Ordered that the assessors of the several Towns . . . send into the Secretary's Office the exact number of the Negro Slaves both male and females, sixteen years old and upwards that are within their Towns and District." (Apparently the order for the first slave census to be taken in Massachusetts showing 2717 slaves, 989 of which belonged to Boston.)
- A Manuscript Letter Book, 1783–1785, belonging to S. Codman, a Boston Merchant, relating to American shipping and business transactions after the Revolution.

The dispersal of a private library afforded opportunity to obtain a collection of 16th and 17th century books giving a view of the state of certain sciences of that time.

There were added to the Brown Collection of Music six of Stephen Foster's songs in first editions and a version of "The New Yankee Doodle," printed by J. Hewitt, 18—, quarto music sheets with a cut portrait of Washington.

Other important acquisitions were:

Monumenti vaticani di archeologia e d'arte, pubblicati per munificenza di Sua Santità Benedetto XV, a cura della Pontificia accademia romana d'archeologia. Volume 1. Roma. 1922. (Continuation of Collezione artistiche.)

Morley, Thomas.

A plaine and easie introduction to practicall musicke, set down in forme of a dialogue; divided into three parts . . . London. 1608. Diagrams. Decorated title page.

Price, Captain R. K.

Astbury, Whieldon and Ralph Wood figures and Toby jugs. London. 1922.

Rio de Janeiro.

Theatre municipal do Rio de Janeiro. Photogravure illustrations, consisting of portraits, exterior and interior views, etc. Rio de Janeiro. 1913. A presentation copy to Enrico Caruso by the Director of the theatre.

Royal Institute of British Architects.

Sir Chrisopther Wren, A.D. 1632-1723. Bicentenary memorial volume. London. 1923.

Toesca, Pietro.

La casa artistica italiana; la casa Bagatti Valsecchi in Milano. Milano. 1918. 160 plates.

White, Stanford.

Sketches and designs. New York. 1920.

The examples cited above have been mainly confined to exceptional books, or to some of the more costly works, but there has been substantial growth in many directions, especially in the collections in the Special Libraries.

The Library has only fallen short in the number of current books bought for popular use and circulation throughout the system.

The gifts received during the year include 14,652 volumes, 12,005 issues of serials, 942 photographs, 75 lantern slides, 51 newspaper subscriptions, from 7,155 givers, as compared with 12,968 volumes, 13,078 serials, 763 photographs, 349 lantern slides and 48 newspaper subscriptions from 5,936 givers in 1922-23.

There was also received under decree of Court "The Oakland Hall Trust Fund" of \$11,781.44, accepted by the Trustees, "the income to be applied to the purchase of books and other library material for the Mattapan Branch."

On pages 77–82 of the Appendix will be found listed a selection of the more important gifts of the year, with the names of the givers.

#### REGISTRATION DEPARTMENT.

On January 31, 1924, there were outstanding 117,119 "live cards", that is, registered cards available for present use in the custody of citizens and certain holders of "special privilege" cards. Through the Central Library and the branches 33,976 new registrations were taken and 26,927 cards renewed, making a total of 60,903 cards issued during the past year. In the same period 57,667 borrowers allowed their home use privilege to lapse. The net increase in cardholders, therefore, for the year was 3,236, compared with 3,933 in 1922–23.

Teachers' cards to the number of 946 were renewed, and 329 new cards were issued to teachers, making in all 1,275 teachers' cards in use compared with 1,472 a year ago.

Special privilege cards were voted by the Board of Trustees to 176 persons; these, added to the 228 which were renewed, make a total of 404 "live" special privilege cards, compared with 396 last year.

At the close of 1923 the department reports the new registration record, begun in August, 1919, as including 203,218 cards; there is also a geographical record of over 120,000 cards. During the coming year some provision must be made for the more adequate housing of these important card records which have outgrown their present quarters.

#### CATALOGUE AND SHELF DEPARTMENT.

The number of volumes and parts of volumes catalogued during 1923–24 was 90,107, representing 64,293 titles. The number of cards added to the catalogues was 244,772, of which number 203,109 were added to the catalogues in the Central Library and 41,663 to those in the branches. The Bates Hall and Issue Department catalogues received 56,501 cards; the official catalogues, 60,723; the Special Libraries catalogues,

28,887; the catalogues of the Library of Congress and Harvard College, and lists in process, 56,998 cards. The above figures are listed not only as a record of the year's work, valuable in making comparisons with that of previous years, but as an indication to the layman of the immense amount of detail connected with the process of making available through the public card catalogues the authors, titles and subjects of the book accessions of the year.

In May, 1923, the Card Division of the Catalogue Department was established, with Mr. Thomas Francis Brennan in charge, and five assistants working under his immediate direction. The Division has the general supervision of all the catalogues in the Central Library, including their maintenance for the convenience of the users, and the oversight of all matters relating to the cards, including the filing, after they come from the Printing Department of the Library or on their receipt from other institutions. It is expected that the new Card Division will add to the efficiency of the Department and relieve the Chief of much detail. Already the results have justified these expectations.

Four positions of importance, which call for special qualifications, including a knowledge of foreign languages, remain unfilled in the Catalogue Department. The work of the institution will continue to suffer just so long as trained, experienced persons remain unfound. The reason for these vacancies is not far to seek. The salaries available for important places in this department, as in others of the Library, are insufficient to attract qualified library assistants.

On page 69 of the Appendix may be found the usual details relating to the work of the Catalogue and Shelf Department for two successive years.

#### PUBLICATIONS.

In December 1923, the fifth volume of the Quarterly Bulletin (Fourth Series) was finished. The completed volume filled 480 pages, 46 pages of which were given over to announcements of public lectures and educational courses given not only at the

Public Library but at a number of other educational centres. Though the main purpose of the publication was to present in dictionary form a list of current additions to the Library's shelves, it included the following special articles and reproductions:

In the March number, an account of the John Adams Library, some Comments of John Adams on Mary Wollstonecraft's "French Revolution," a reproduction of Copley's portrait of Mr. Adams, a facsimile of the title-page of the First Folio Shakespeare, from the original in the Barton Collection, and a list of British and American Longer Plays, compiled by Michael J. Conroy, of the Bates Hall Reference Department.

The June number presented a sketch of the Franklin Library, reproductions of the portraits of Franklin by Duplessis and Greuze, which hang in the Trustees' Room of the Central Library, a facsimile of one of Franklin's letters to Samuel C. Johnson, with some notes on the latter, and the second edition of a List of References on the Project Method of Education, compiled by Alice M. Jordan, Supervisor of Work with Children.

The September issue contained a description of the Gilbert Collection, accompanied by a portrait of John Gilbert, together with several items connected with Shakespeare, in commemoration of the Tercentenary of the First Folio; these include a reprint of Horace Howard Furness's report on the Barton Collection, made in 1882, with some remarks on the present status of the Collection; views of the exterior and interior of the Globe Theatre—"Shakespeare's Theatre"; contemporary prints of London Bridge and of part of Queen Elizabeth's funeral procession, all supplemented by a List of Works on Shakespeare's England, compiled by Mary A. Tenney of the Catalogue Department.

In the December number the editorial matter related to the Parker Library, and was accompanied by a portrait of Theodore Parker from Seth Cheney's crayon, and a letter from Parker to Miss Thayer. There was also a reproduction of Francis Derwent Wood's bust of Henry James, which the sculptor had recently presented to the Library. An Index to the poems of Robert William Service, prepared by Michael J. Conroy of the Bates Hall Reference Department, was also included in this issue.

Other Library publications of the year included the following:

*Weekly Lists*, 52 in number for the year 1923, giving brief titles of a selected list of the most recent additions to the Library, compiled by Lucien E. Taylor.

*Ten-Book Lists*, numbers 52-104 inclusive. Four of the fifty-three issues printed during the year were double numbers. The series began in 1922 under the editorship of Mr. Taylor and ceased on Decem-



ber 8, 1923, on the completion of a two year period. Most of the lists were prepared by chiefs of the various departments of the Library; a number were compiled by members or officers of various associations whose meetings suggested the respective subjects of the lists. In the future, Ten-book Lists will be issued irregularly in connection with topics of current interest, on the occasion of important anniversaries, or in connection with conventions and meetings of associations held in the city.

*Brief Reading Lists*, Nos. 24–26. The subjects were as follows: No. 24, the Project Method in Education, compiled by Alice M. Jordan, Supervisor of Work with Children; reprinted from the June issue of the *Quarterly Bulletin*; No. 25, Health and Hygiene, compiled by Lucien E. Taylor, prepared in connection with the Boston Health Show; No. 26, British and American Longer Plays, 1900–1923, compiled by Michael J. Conroy, reprinted from the *Quarterly Bulletin* for March.

*A Guide to Serial Publications* founded prior to 1918 and now or recently current in Boston, Cambridge, and vicinity, compiled and edited by Thomas Johnston Homer; part II, Bibl.–Esp., 1050 copies, 50 on special paper, pages 97–192; main entries nos. 1860–3952. The material for the rest of the alphabet, not yet printed, is accessible for use in the Barton Gallery of the Central Library.

*Library Life*, the Staff Bulletin of the Library, published on the 15th of each month, summer months excepted, entered upon its third year in October, with an enlarged and reorganized staff selected with the purpose of covering the news of interest to the employees in a more systematic way by means of a greater division of responsibility.

#### BATES HALL.

The revision of the Bates Hall reference collection progresses toward its completion. The sections devoted to encyclopaedias and dictionaries has been thoroughly overhauled and constant changes have been made in the collection as a whole. The movement of books, as a matter of record, has affected 969 titles (1415 volumes), besides 102 volumes added as continuations; 475 new titles (578 volumes) have been added to the collection during the year; 250 titles (476 volumes) have been given new locations; 184 titles (301 volumes) have been retired as superannuated. The missing list of the year is even smaller than that reported a year ago; 165 books have disappeared from the shelves and six volumes missing in previous years have been found, making a net loss for the year of 159 volumes.

The reference work of the Library, with its centre in Bates Hall, has been carried on along the traditional lines. The use of the telephone for reference purposes is growing steadily. A constantly increasing number of persons call for information in this way, and on the other hand, the reference assistants are learning to make a larger use of the telephone in running down the answers to elusive questions.

During the summer a questionnaire was prepared and sent to the special libraries in Metropolitan Boston, including a considerable number in addition to those listed in the last edition of the Directory of Special Libraries. This questionnaire was the means of collecting additional information regarding the resources of the libraries of Boston and its vicinity, and it is hoped that before long a new edition of the Directory of Special Libraries will be published. In this connection should be mentioned the activities of the volunteer Extension Service Committee, which resulted in enrolling some fifty organizations which have no libraries but which possess large funds of specialized information, most of which they are glad to place at the disposal of the public through the reference and information channels of the Public Library.

The year has seen closer co-operation between the Reference Department and the branches of the Library, which has taken various forms. The Reference Librarian has assisted in revising reference collections and lists for various branches and has conducted a course in reference work for branch assistants.

The total number of volumes consulted in Bates Hall was 248,169, an increase of 7,569 over last year. It should be remembered that these figures relate only to the use of volumes taken from the stacks, for which regular call slips were filed. No account is kept of the many thousands of volumes which readers use from the great reference collection in the Bates Hall reading room.

During the winter months, especially on Saturday and Sunday afternoons, there have been more readers than seats in Bates Hall. A notable feature of the use of the hall is the large percentage of adult non-resident readers who avail themselves of

material not to be found in their own home libraries in adjacent municipalities.

In increasing numbers, students from various schools and institutions find Bates Hall a convenient place in which to work up lecture notes and lessons, study school text books and prepare their work for the following day. So long as students using the Library for these purposes have not interfered with adult readers or their accommodation, the Director has made no protest. When men and women come to consult books or other library material and find the number of students so great that seats are unobtainable, it is a question whether students are not abusing library privileges.

The service of the Hall is greatly and increasingly handicapped by the wholly inadequate and outworn pneumatic tubes and book carrier system which were installed over twenty-five years ago. No relief can be hoped for until city appropriations permit the installation of a more modern equipment.

#### NEWSPAPER AND PATENT ROOMS.

Of the 271 newspapers regularly received by the Library 191 are American and 80 come from thirty-three foreign countries. The daily papers number 214, the weekly 57. During the current year six papers were added and two ceased publication or were consolidated with other papers. The bound volumes now number 8,882, an increase of 135 volumes since the last report. Readers to the number of 18,654 consulted 33,534 bound volumes during the year, a slight increase over the year previous.

During the year 483 volumes were added to the Patent collection which now numbers 16,776 volumes. During the twelve months 107,868 volumes were used by 18,163 persons. It is unfortunately still impossible to obtain continuations of the German patent records, which are lacking for the entire period since 1914. The Library receives regularly the volumes from New Zealand, Australia, France, Great Britain, Canada and the United States.

INFORMATION OFFICE, GOVERNMENT DOCUMENT SERVICE,  
AND OPEN SHELF ROOM.

The Information Office is now generally recognized by the public as a library directing agency, a first aid to the inquirer. To this end there has been assembled on the shelves of the room such material as will be of most immediate use, including a few obvious books of reference, several hundred municipal and telephone directories, reports from many chambers of commerce, the Federal Reserve bulletins and other publications relating to banks and banking, surveys of current business and commerce, etc. Constant use is made of the large collection of school, college and institution catalogues, and the vocational service files. The latter files, it will be recalled, were established in December, 1920, by the Boston Branch of the Association of Collegiate Alumnae, with the co-operation of the Women's Municipal League, the Girls' Trade Education League and the Young Women's Christian Association. This collection, ever changing in order that it may be kept up to date, consists at present of some nine hundred pamphlets and over fifteen hundred clippings. Gifts of periodicals and pamphlets for the files have been received from the Women's Educational and Industrial Union, the Associated Industries of Massachusetts, the Prospect Union, and the National Research Council. The Association of Collegiate Alumnae made a gift of ten dollars for special pamphlets and volumes. It is interesting to note that men use the vocational file fully as much as women. The inquiries vary with the seasons of the year: in the fall there is a lively demand for material on educational opportunities, especially evening courses, while in the spring the call is for booklets descriptive of summer schools and camps. Special interest has been shown in the following occupations: accounting, advertising, agriculture, art, automobiles, aviation, engineering, insurance, library work, music, radio, salesmanship, secretarial work, social service, teaching, and the various trades and occupations for the handicapped.

The federal and state documents in the room adjoining the Information Office are continually sought by men and women who have discovered the great value of these official current publications dealing with the varied problems of government and the results of governmental research.

The Open Shelf collection of books of non-fiction has maintained its popularity. In the room may be found not only a selection of the more recent accessions of the Library, but some two thousand volumes no longer considered new but still of value, as they treat of many subjects in which the public finds abiding interest. The most popular books are in the fields of travel and discovery, biography, drama, business, domestic science and household arts. Somewhat unusual has been the steady call for the so-called "war books" — volumes treating not only of the late World War in its many phases, but the Civil War, the American Revolution, and the Napoleonic campaigns. Over 42,000 volumes in all were drawn out for home use from the shelves of this small and wholly inadequate room during the year.

#### PERIODICAL ROOM.

The number of readers at certain hours, as totalled in each of two successive years, and the number reported five years ago, are as follows:

<i>Attendance.</i>								
	HOURS	10 a.m.	12 m.	2 p.m.	4 p.m.	6 p.m.	8 p.m.	9.45 p.m.
1923-1924	. .	15,233	17,416	29,172	35,841	22,416	26,531	13,340
1922-1923	. .	14,871	16,263	27,826	33,109	22,241	26,310	13,216
1918-1919	. .	7,264	10,342	18,547	23,201	16,173	19,236	6,072

The steady increase in the use of bound and unbound periodical files is shown by the following figures:

#### *Bound Files.*

Bound volumes consulted during the year:		1922-1923.	1923-1924.
Day time (week days)	. . . . .	44,843	46,724
Evening and Sunday	. . . . .	18,762	19,843

*Unbound Files.*

Unbound periodicals consulted:		1922-1923.	1923-1924.
Day time (week days)	. . . . .	53,786	55,516
Evening and Sunday	. . . . .	23,479	24,572

Current periodicals, exclusive of those issued by the State and Federal governments, regularly filed for readers, may be found distributed as follows:

Periodical Room	. . . . .	1,179
Fine Arts Division and Music Room	. . . . .	134
Statistical Department	. . . . .	48
Teachers' Reference and Children's Room	. . . . .	57
Ordering Department	. . . . .	27
Total	. . . . .	<hr/> 1,445

The Custodian reports that never have the periodical rooms been so crowded. Not infrequently all the available seats are occupied. The leading cause of the growing use of periodicals is the interest in current events shown by the general public and by the students from the various schools and institutions of higher learning. In increasing numbers instructors and pupils have come from the Boston schools to receive aid and instruction in the use of digests and indexes. Inadequate appropriations have made impossible the installation of a modern equipment, more economical as to space. The inconvenient periodical racks continue to be the source of complaint from many readers. It is hoped that provision for new tables and cases may soon be forthcoming. The enlarged use of periodicals and newspapers is only another indication of the desirability of throwing open for public purposes the valuable space now occupied by the Catalogue and Ordering Departments, provided these departments can be accommodated in additions to the present Central Building.

**SPECIAL LIBRARIES.**

The Special Libraries include all the collections housed on the third floor of the Central Building, and comprise the following divisions:

*Fine Arts Division.* Books, plates, pamphlets and periodicals on the fine arts, including architecture and city planning,

sculpture, painting, graphic arts, and art crafts; the Codman collection on landscape architecture; material on pageants; and the Library's main collection of photographs, prints, art clippings and lantern slides.

*Technology Division.* Books on technology, including engineering in all its branches, manufactures, applied sciences, and works in the fields of pure physics and chemistry added since 1922; also the bound files of technical periodicals.

The two divisions above named have a common reading-room and a book delivery service in communication with all parts of the Central Library.

*Music Division.* The Allen A. Brown reference collection of music and literature of music; also a large collection of music for home use, musical and dramatic periodicals, indexes and scrap-books.

*Barton - Ticknor Division.* Twenty-three special collections restricted to use within the building, including Americana, Anti-Slavery and Civil War material, books on dramatic history, incunabula and publications of famous presses, works on mathematics, Shakespeariana, Spanish literature, books illustrating women's activities, etc. The Library's large collection of maps and the map catalogue are also to be found in this division.

Some idea of the complexity of the Special Libraries Department and its service may be obtained from the statement that it takes care of about thirty-three different classes of books and other library material, arranged according to nine different systems of classification or location, noted in eleven catalogues and six shelf-lists, and charged for issue in eight indicators.

The time of the department personnel is, naturally, almost wholly absorbed by the daily routine of this complex service, but it will be seen that some work of constructive character has been accomplished.

The personnel of the department has been notably strengthened during the year by the appointment of Dr. Zoltán Haraszti, an efficient and highly educated assistant who is in charge of the Barton - Ticknor Division, filling a vacancy of two years' standing.

The involved shelf arrangement of both the Music and the Barton-Ticknor divisions has been completely charted during the year. The map collections have been rearranged and over ten thousand Anti-Slavery letters have been bound and indexed. For the first time, regular monthly exhibitions of rare books and manuscripts have been arranged in the Barton Room, and illustrated "special feature" articles describing these exhibits have been written for the daily papers.

The open-shelf music reference collection has been extended during the year. The bulletin of musical events in Boston posted weekly and described in the report of last year has been continued and has been of interest to many visitors.

The Fine Arts Division has nearly completed a classed catalogue of the accessions of the last four years. Progress has been made also in the revision and reclassification of the fine arts open-shelf collection, the periodical index, and the collection of art clippings known as "decorative detail."

The Technology Division has continued to build up its classed catalogue and has also found time to reclass and renumber its entire open-shelf collection. The subjects of pure physics and chemistry have been taken over by the division, and a shelf classification for these subjects has been printed as a special pamphlet.

From May 1, 1923, to May 1, 1924, the department put on view forty-six exhibitions. Fourteen of these were biographical, and all but fourteen were made up from collections owned by the Library. A complete list of these exhibitions may be found on pages 75 and 76 of the Appendix.

The number of books issued for home use from the Special Libraries during the year was 23,121, compared with 25,130 in 1922-23. This loss in circulation is negligible. It is interesting to note that every month shows a decrease from the figures of the preceding year, excepting the periods, September 15 - November 15, and December 16 - January 15, which have much larger totals than last year. In the fiscal year 4404 lantern slides and 2184 portfolios of pictures were issued. About twenty-five pictures are placed in each portfolio, making the pic-



ture circulation something over 54,000. The total number of photographs and process pictures now available is estimated at 68,560 and that of lantern slides at 10,348.

#### WORK WITH CHILDREN.

The stock of children's books in the Central Library and the thirty-one branches has been replenished by the purchase of 33,763 volumes, which includes new books, additional copies, and replacements. Of the total number of books acquired for the branches 63 per cent were for children, constituting a larger number for this purpose than the Library has ever before purchased in a single year. The circulation of children's books in the branch system was 1,236,999 out of a total branch circulation of 2,345,860. From the Children's Room in the Central Library there were issued 73,278 additional books, making a total of 1,310,277 volumes classed as children's books lent for home use during the fiscal year. A total of 60,913 volumes—43,521 from the branch libraries and 17,392 from the Branch Issue Division of the Central Library—were sent during the same period as deposits to 171 grammar, 5 high and 13 parochial schools of the city.

The above statements imply progress; they also call attention to the need of more books for the use of children, as the insistent call on the part of children cannot by any means be satisfied by the Library's present supply. It is suggested that inquiry might reasonably be made regarding the possibility of securing some financial aid from the School Department in providing books used exclusively as school deposits to assist children in learning to read. At present the deposits sent to schools constitute a severe drain on the all too limited collections in the branches and deplete the book shelves in the crowded children's rooms of the system.

*Story Hour.* The results obtained in the library story hour organized by experts who are equipped to meet the great opportunities of their work continue to be most gratifying. All over the city can be felt the impetus to use the library and to read

the finer types of books, traceable to the effective personal influence of Mr. and Mrs. John J. Cronan and Mrs. Margaret W. Powers.

Story hours have been held at fifty-three different points during the year. In all branches where space permits there have been groups for longer or shorter terms within the library and there are only four branches which have lacked a story hour, held either in their own buildings or at neighboring schools. Two of these will receive attention early in 1924.

The following quotations are from the report of Mrs. Cronan:

There is much in the present day to excite children and distract them from reading books which require any concentration. For this reason it is more difficult for the story hour to produce readers, but we rejoice to see that many of the children do go from listening to the story to the reading of the book.

Those who do not read are surely benefited by hearing the stories of idealism, patriotism, delicate fancy, quaint humor and those which give a better understanding of children of other countries.

To meet the requests of responsive readers the libraries need to be supplied with the books used by the story-tellers in sufficient quantity to prevent repeated disappointment, which tends to discourage children from further attempts to secure the books.

It would be impossible for the story-tellers to cover the city in out-of-school hours with library groups alone, and the welcome accorded to them by teachers and masters of public schools has opened a door for unlimited extension work of the most fruitful kind. Throughout the winter months the library story hour is reaching from 300 to 1000 children each school day.

Sometimes the principals have needed to be convinced as to the place of stories in a school program, but once sure of their value to children, they have become warm supporters, asking for the continuance of the privilege beyond the time allotted. A few of their words of commendation follow:

The latch-string of this school is always out to you. You could not come too often to us. I know of nothing outside the school which has been such a help.

You strengthen the bond between library and school.

You have something of value to say to the children and we wish to do everything in our power to help.

This is educational work, so we welcome it in the schools.

I have no stronger aid in my English work with the children of foreign parentage than that given by the story tellers.

As for the children, their affection for the story tellers is touchingly and dramatically expressed in many letters begging them to come again.

The story-tellers testimony reads as follows:

Story telling has proved to be a bond between Art Museum, Neighborhood Houses and Library, but now each year seems to bring a closer connection between schools and library. It has been a privilege to be welcomed in the schools and thus reach such numbers of children who need what we have to give and who have no time to listen to stories outside of school hours.

The advice to Jacob, "Bear a gift in thine hand," seems to apply to story telling. We are able to bring a touch of joy to the school, and at the same time enhance the value of school deposits, advertise what our Library has to offer and emphasize what we cannot say too often, that librarians and teachers are working together for the children and can work together most effectively when there is united effort and close understanding.

*Children's Rooms.* Though crowded conditions prevail in several sections of the city, notably those served by the South Boston, Warren Street, Jeffries Point, Upham's Corner, and Mt. Bowdoin Branch Libraries, accommodations for carrying on the work with the children have been improved at a number of points. The reading room in the new South End Branch, has ample and satisfactory space for the ordinary activities, but as yet no suitable place has been found there for the story hour. At Roxbury Crossing enlarged quarters have received cordial appreciation. The librarian comments as follows: "A visitor, a perfect stranger to us, stopped at the desk and said that she could not pass by the door without coming into the children's room, it was so inviting from the outside." Re-arrangement of the Roslindale Branch to admit of a separate entrance for children is a forward step that promises to solve certain problems in the administration of that library.

*Central Children's Room.* The Supervisor of Work with Children states that the personal guidance given to readers in the Children's Room of the Central Library indicates the nature of

the assistance which every branch should be able to give. Arousing interest in books of real value by substituting those of high quality for the mediocre, and encouraging appreciation of general literature by introduction of different types of reading are the tasks for which the staff is qualifying. There has been a development in reference work during the year; many of the questions to be answered require a wide knowledge of children's literature and acute discernment in the matter of relative values. As usual, the Central Children's Room has been visited by many classes from schools.

*Teachers' Room.* The Teachers' Room has likewise grown in usefulness and acceptability. It has furnished reference material for students at universities and training schools, and has become a centre for persons taking extension courses. Books have been reserved for nineteen courses since September.

The Department has also been able to supplement the work of the Special Libraries Department by issuing 7,892 pictures to teachers and schools, exceeding by 1,624 the circulation of pictures from the Children's Department the previous year.

*Co-operation with Children's Museum.* Co-operation with the Children's Museum in Jamaica Plain has proceeded in an orderly and animating way. The Central Children's Room and the Tyler Street Branch have had successive exhibitions from the Museum. These have included spring birds, Japanese ceremonial dolls, collections of shells, minerals, etc.

*Gift.* A gift of dolls of different periods and nations received from Mrs. Dwight Blaney is at present assigned to the North End Branch, which is assembling a permanent collection of dolls of many kinds.

#### REORGANIZATION OF WORK WITH CHILDREN.

All the reports from the branch libraries discuss at some length the constantly growing work with children, which the librarians are sometimes unable to conduct in a systematic and orderly way in rooms of insufficient size or unsatisfactory location. Where quarters are large enough to accommodate considerable numbers,

too often there is a crying need of assistants properly qualified to give the sort of personal attention which is the basis of sound and intelligent relations with boys and girls. The volume and importance of library work with children leaves no doubt as to the pressing necessity of unifying and co-ordinating the work by means of a more definite organization than exists at present. In twenty-one of the thirty-one branches the use of children's books constitutes more than 50 per cent of the total circulation. At the North End Branch it reaches 88 per cent, while in all the branches the demands for reference work with children are steadily increasing. Attention must immediately be given to building up an adequate body of trained assistants for the development of this important phase of the library's activities. The resources, time and energy now given to work with children must fail of complete fruition so long as there is a lack of the standardization which makes for consistency and concerted effort.

In most other departments of library work the idea that "anybody can do anything if he tries" is no longer accepted. Assistants in charge of work with children must be fitted by temperament and training for their work, which should be put upon as sound an educational basis as that of teachers in the schools of the city. If the library is to bring good books within reach of every child in the city and to foster the habit of discriminating reading, those selected to carry on the work must have a wide knowledge of children's literature and an ability to perceive the qualities in books which attract children. This fitness, the capacity to furnish wise guidance through the realm of books written for children to a point at which true appreciation of general literature is reached, can be gained only by intensive study and experience. It cannot be attained by casual methods.

The staff of each of the major branches of the system should include a well-trained assistant to lead in this special work. Her duties have been outlined as follows by the Supervisor of Work with Children:

She is responsible for the order and attractiveness of the children's room. This involves the ability to preserve an atmosphere inviting to readers, by handling matters of discipline in the best way possible, and keeping physical conditions comfortable and agreeable. A room is made

attractive by means of well arranged pictures, well planned exhibits, and chiefly by a sufficient display of books that have decorative value.

She has the care of the collection of children's books. Books in bad condition should be repaired or withdrawn. The character of the collection and of the neighborhood should be studied, in order that a balanced supply of books of standard merit, or those for which there is popular demand, may be recommended. Books which have outlived their usefulness should be replaced by others.

She gives personal assistance to children in the selection of books and in reference problems for schools. These duties call for thorough acquaintance not only with the limits of the children's collection at the branch but with the books available at the Central Library, the manifold interests of children and the school curricula.

She helps adults in search of information concerning children's reading. The demand from parents and teachers grows with the library's preparedness to meet it.

She gives instruction to the younger assistants detailed to help in the children's room.

She assists at the story hours and furthers their influence in every way.

She visits schools and other institutions connected with child welfare, for the purpose of making desirable outside contacts with the library's public.

Training for this special work is best given in schools or classes established for this definite end, such as the Library School connected with Western Reserve University in Cleveland, and that of the Carnegie Library at Pittsburgh. The Boston Public Library has no provision for furnishing a training which shall provide theoretical and practical instruction given by experts who are qualified to teach and sufficiently free from other responsibilities to do it effectively. Properly prepared assistants for work with children can, however, be obtained if they are offered their right place on the library staff, with a salary in accord with their attainments.

Libraries whose work with children has reached a high degree of efficiency and success have insisted upon securing a trained group of individuals who are expected to lead in this work, under the Supervisor of Work with Children. The time seems to have come for the Boston Public Library to take its place with other large libraries by active reorganization of its work with children in accordance with generally accepted standards.

## THE BRANCH SYSTEM.

By vote of the Board of Trustees on May 18, 1923, the title "Reading Room" was changed to that of "Branch", and the thirty-one branches of the library system were graded as Major Branches, A and B, and Minor Branches, C and D. The title "Reading Room" has always been misleading in that it gave to the uninitiated the impression that it was a room for reading purposes, rather than a small branch of the system, at which service similar to that in the larger branches was offered to the public. The grading of the branches is based on their size, location, circulation figures, the scope of activities undertaken and the complexity of their problems of administration.

The subsidiary agencies served through the Branch Department include 56 fire engine houses, 44 institutions of various types, and 189 schools, of which 13 are parochial schools. The total number of library agencies through which the Library serves the public is 320, as compared with 333 a year ago. The number of volumes issued on borrowers' cards from the Central Library through the Branch Department was 107,250, as against 111,070 in 1922-23, and 106,556 in 1921-22. These figures show a loss of 3,820 volumes issued during last year as compared with the year before. The proportion of unsuccessful calls for books was 51.5 per cent as against 55 per cent a year before. Of the total unsuccessful requests, 52,640 were calls for fiction, as against 66,572 last year. Of the total number of volumes sent out from the Central Library through the branches 86,025 were taken directly from the shelves of the Branch Deposit Collection.

The total circulation of the Branch System for the fiscal year was 2,594,033 volumes, compared with 2,424,014 the year before, a gain in branch circulation of 170,019 volumes. Twenty-five branches gained and six lost in circulation. The greatest gains were at Andrew Square, Mt. Bowdoin, South Boston, Warren Street, South End, West End and North End; the losses were at Upham's Corner, Roxbury, Parker Hill, Orient Heights, Charlestown and Mt. Pleasant.



The number of volumes sent out from the Central Library on deposit to schools, institutions and other agencies was 42,230, as against 45,286 last year and 44,257 in 1921-22. The number of volumes sent to schools from the Central Library and branches was 60,913, compared with 56,348 last year. Of this number 17,392 were sent from the Branch Issue Division, Central Library, as compared with 18,524 the year before. The number of books issued on deposit from the branch libraries, chiefly to schools, was 43,521, compared with 37,824 the year before. The number of individual teachers supplied was 1,391, as against 1,200 in 1922-23.

The number of volumes acquired by purchase for branch use during the year was 50,151; of these 5,685 were placed in the branch deposit collection, and 44,466 were distributed among the thirty-one branches. These figures represent almost exactly two-thirds of the total number of accessions by purchase for the entire library system (75,534 volumes). The number of books bound for the branch libraries the past year was 24,626, as compared with 23,465 in 1922-23.

The new South End Branch, opened on February 1, 1923, is located in the basement of the Archbishop Williams Municipal Building, corner of Shawmut Avenue and West Brookline Street. On the main floor is an auditorium seating a thousand, with stage, ante-rooms, corridors, etc. A large modern, well-equipped gymnasium, with shower baths, lockers, etc., occupies the top floor of the building. The branch library, with direct approach and separate entrance from West Brookline Street, occupies a quiet room fifty-nine feet wide and ninety-nine feet long. Economy in construction necessitated sinking the floor some ten steps below the sidewalk, which permits the placing of seven-foot bookcases around the walls with windows above, admitting as much direct side light as is possible under the circumstances. The room is amply supplied with the latest and most approved type of lighting fixtures, arranged in rows so that the lights farthest from the high side windows can be switched on first, and, as the daylight fades, other rows of lights can be turned on until the room is fully illuminated. In the centre of the room, running back from the entrance, is a corridor enclosed by plate glass in



suitable screen partitions about seven feet high. Here is located the charging desk. On the right of the corridor as you enter is the children's room and on the left the adults' room. Through the glazed panels, the attendant in charge has an uninterrupted view of the whole floor. High bookcases line the walls and are built into the alcove of the adults' room, while three-foot shelving follows the inside of the dividing partitions, providing altogether room for over 15,000 volumes. There are fifteen tables, each seating nine persons, in the adults' section and fifteen in that for children, providing accommodation for two hundred and seventy readers at a time. In addition to the main room, there is a private room for the branch librarian, and work, lunch and toilet rooms. The bookcases, furniture and fittings are of stained oak; the walls are tinted a light, dull yellow, and the ceilings are ivory white, better to reflect the light. Floors throughout are of cork tile, to insure against noise. The architect of the building was Mr. J. A. Schweinfurth, of Boston, who gave careful consideration to the needs of the branch, and at all times co-operated most cordially with the Director and other library officials.

On March 1, 1923, a new room for adults, adjoining the old room used for both adults and children, was added to the Roxbury Crossing Branch, nearly doubling the previous floor space and permitting an extension of work in this crowded section of the city.

#### REPORTS FROM THE BRANCHES.

The reports of the thirty-one branches of the Boston Public Library constitute a copious volume in themselves. They afford a comprehensive insight into the inner life of the whole organization. Short extracts from these reports are given below. They illustrate the specific characteristics of the different branches. First, however, it is expedient to sum up certain features common to all the reports.

All the librarians speak of a great increase in the activities of their branches. The circulation of books is larger, reference information is much more in demand, and, after school hours, every seat is usually occupied. "Our library is really a com-

munity center . . .” is a frequently recurring phrase in the reports, fully justified by the statistics.

Because of these growing demands, the problem of the location and housing of the libraries becomes increasingly important. The Boston Public Library has some fine, modern library buildings; others are fairly good, but a number of the older quarters are to-day entirely too small. Frequent are the complaints of the serious inadequacy of these buildings. “The quarters are crowded and unattractive . . .”, is an often repeated phrase in the reports; but with it is also the appeal: “There is here a great opportunity for growth, and we must not let it go by . . .”

In spite of many handicaps, the work done in the branches was very satisfactory. The spirit of the librarians—even where the conditions are the most difficult—is suggested in this phrase from one of the reports: “‘Keep on going’ was our slogan in the past, and will be also in the future.”

Second only to the problem of housing is that of the branch book collections. These are constantly changing; old or unused books are returned to the Central Library, and new accessions fill their places. The weeding-out, re-arranging and re-classifying of the books is constantly going on. The demand for more of both fiction and non-fiction is constant. The supply is wholly inadequate. The stock, nevertheless, is diversified and alive. Many joyous references have been made to the growing juvenile collections.

Many branches are located in districts with an extremely heterogeneous population. The reports emphasize the need of more books in the native tongues of the foreign-born. Many of the newcomers are eager readers, and appreciate library privileges. Easy English books help the process of their Americanization. The librarians are conscious of their obligation in this direction.

The third problem relates to the staff. Harmony is the prevalent note in all the reports. The branch librarian “cannot close” her report without referring to the “helpful co-operation and loyalty” of the assistants. There have been some necessary changes in the personnel of the different branches, and it takes

time for a new person to get fully acquainted with her surroundings, but the work has progressed everywhere smoothly and without interruption. There are just complaints in some cases of a lack of sufficient assistants. The growing work with the children, and the increasing demand for reference information, call for more help than is at present available.

Regarding the work with children, co-operation with the schools was closer and more intensive this past year than ever before. The process of depositing new collections of books and pictures in the schools was continued and extended. The librarians have visited many of the schools and the visits have uniformly resulted in a large number of new registrations.

The reference work for adult users of the branch system is increasing. The libraries constantly seek to attract more men and women readers. Closer contact with the big industries of the neighborhood has been an outstanding feature of the year's activities. Suitable book collections have been deposited in many factories, and the attention of the working people has been called to the library by posters, notices and personal visits. Posters placed in stores have attracted many strangers to the library. The use of electric signs, "movie" advertisements and news notes in the local papers have become more general during the year just ended.

"There are three kinds of readers," one of the reports justly and keenly says, "those who love to read, those who need to read, and those who have to read." It is safe to say that the branches did their best to develop *one* large circle of readers: those for whom reading is a pleasure and a spontaneous impulse.

Notes from the separate branch libraries follow:

*Allston.* There is a constant demand for new fiction. The present quarters are too small to accommodate the public, which is growing. The branch needs more shelving, and the walls need painting. The gain in circulation was 4,107.

*Andrew Square.* The year was a busy and successful one. The branch has been entirely renovated, much to the comfort and apparent satisfaction of the public. Several hundred new

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registrations were received, and the circulation increased 18,578. More new Polish books are needed.

*Boylston Station.* This is the library nearest to four grammar and three primary schools. Since posters have been placed in the store windows, strangers in increasing numbers visit the library and apply for books. The gain in circulation was 6,668.

*Brighton.* Every year the branch serves more and more foreign children. Primers and easy books are especially in demand. The greatest gain in the circulation has come from juvenile non-fiction. Half of the readers are adults. They ask for fiction, but the supply is not large enough. The gain in circulation was 4,434.

*Charlestown.* The district has, with perhaps one exception, the largest number of transient residents served by any branch library. With every ship that docks for repair work, the library has a new group of readers. Strangers in the city, they find the library immediately, and use it freely until their ship sails. Occasionally the same people return within two years, renew their cards and tell of libraries at other ports. The lecture hall was more used this year than at any time since the year of its opening. There was a loss in circulation of 2,105.

*City Point.* This section has an extensive foreign population, the largest group being Italians; then follow Lithuanians, Armenians, Belgians, Jews, Dutch and Czechs. By registration and the distribution of "easy" books, the library has endeavored to further the Americanization process among them. Many of the foreign adults, hardly able to express their needs in English, ask for copies of the classics in their native tongue. Their buoyancy, optimism and appreciation of library privileges give an impetus to the work. The gain in circulation was 4,896.

*Codman Square.* It is difficult for the outsider to realize how much high school pupils use the library; they come morning, noon and night. Many adults also require individual attention. There was a gain in circulation of 9,719.

*Dorchester.* The shelf-list is under careful revision. Many

old books, which had not been off the shelves for years, were transferred to the Central Library. The circulation of the past year shows an increase of 7,798.

*East Boston.* The Branch has a splendid building and an excellent collection of books, but the number of staff-workers is insufficient. The gain in circulation was 4,975.

*Faneuil.* The number of juvenile readers is much larger than ever before. This does not imply, however, that the branch lacks adult patronage. The eldest constant reader is a man of 103 years. The increase in circulation was 2,060.

*Fellowes Athenaeum.* The gradual change in the population from native-born Americans to Poles, Letts, Jews, Russians, Italians, etc., creates a demand for more books in the native tongues of the foreign-born. The stacks are, unfortunately, closed, and this influences the circulation. People would take out more books if they were allowed to browse among them. Loss in circulation, 7,452.

*Hyde Park.* With a high school next door, several large grammar schools and many college students in the district, there is an unusual opportunity to increase the usefulness of the library. Unfortunately the staff has been too small to do more than the routine work. There was a gain in circulation of 7,218.

*Jamaica Plain.* So many writers, artists and teachers live in this district that the librarian plans to make a section for the works of Jamaica Plain authors. Two hundred and five teachers reside in the district, ninety-six of whom are registered card-holders. Gain in circulation, 4,052.

*Jeffries Point.* This is eminently a children's library. Only about one-quarter of the books issued are for adults. There are a few Italian fathers who come to the library, but their wives apparently do not find time to read. Gain in circulation, 4,932.

*Lower Mills.* This is primarily a residential section, with comparatively few industries. Parents often come to supervise their children's registration and to talk over the selection of books for the use of the boys and girls. Gain in circulation, 8,224.

*Mattapan.* The quarters are inadequate for such a growing library. Much more could be accomplished with a larger book collection and more assistants. The demand is for the better type of books. Gain in circulation, 7,202.

*Mt. Bowdoin.* During the greater part of the afternoon, the library is crowded with pupils from the neighboring schools. A larger space for adults is much needed; in spite of crowded conditions, 41 per cent of the circulation is adult, showing a gain of 8 per cent over last year. Gain in circulation, 15,858.

*Mt. Pleasant.* The library is in close co-operation with the schools. One of the teachers in the Parochial School has been recently transferred to Halifax, N. S., and writes from there: "One great regret is mine: we have no library for children. I wish I could send to you as last year and get some of those charming books. But the land of Uncle Sam is far away . . ." Loss in circulation, 869.

*Neponset.* Most of the patrons are old residents,—families who have lived here for generations. While in most of the other districts the children carry home books for their parents, here the parents come in to select books for their children. Gain in circulation, 7,090.

*North End.* The library does not give the people food, clothing or other material comforts, but it does give a zest for life and a joy in living. The ideal location of the branch, bringing the library into close contact with the schools and social agencies of the district, has helped greatly in accomplishing this end. So far as circulation is concerned, the branch continues to be a children's library; 88 per cent of the books are issued to children. The adult room, however, is well patronized. The circulation shows a gain of 10,970.

*Orient Heights.* The young people like to come to the library, for they know that they can get what they want. But the attitude of the older people is different, mainly because the place is unattractive. If the branch had a larger room and more satisfactory equipment, the demands on the library would be much greater. Loss in circulation, 3,660.



*Parker Hill.* Last spring the librarian visited the schools, and it is worth noting that from one school alone she received one hundred and fifty new registrations. The work with the nurses of the hospitals in the vicinity has materially increased. Reference work is a vital part of the service. Loss in circulation, 5,378.

*Roslindale.* This year a children's room was established, which has proved a marked success. The gain in circulation is 6,739.

*Roxbury Crossing.* The activity of the branch has increased in all its phases. This is due in part to the addition of many new books and to the opening of a new adult room. Many of the adult patrons now prefer to stay and read in the library. The reference work takes an increasing amount of time. Gain in circulation, 1,958.

*South Boston.* Nearly every nationality is represented in the district. The library has plenty of books on citizenship, but should have larger collections in foreign languages. There are about 28,000 children of school age in the vicinity. The library is destined to be of vital significance, but in the present quarters the proper extension of the work is impossible. The library has been functioning in the same leased rooms—one flight up from the street—for more than fifty-one years. There is a crying need for a new and independent library building. Gain in circulation, 14,364.

*South End.* The library has just completed its first year in the new Municipal Building. The removal was accomplished without closing the branch, and with no inconvenience to the public. The whole effect of the new quarters is agreeable, restful and homelike. Many who came at first only to look around the building are now constant users of the library. In contrast to most of the branches, the majority of the readers are adults. The library is in touch with the big industries of the vicinity, and has availed itself of every opportunity for publicity which might enlarge its field of usefulness. Gain in circulation, 12,139.

*Tyler Street.* The neighborhood is most cosmopolitan and heterogeneous. There are a great many Jews, Italians, Syrians, Irish and Greeks, with a scattering of Armenians, Lithuanians, Poles, and Chinese. The library has tried to get in contact with the latter and the little Chinese children come to the library in appreciable numbers. Members of the staff speak a number of the languages of the district, which is a great help in gaining new registrations. In the reference room every seat is taken almost every night, by high school students. Gain in circulation, 2,297.

*Upham's Corner.* A more adequate children's room and more trained assistants are the greatest needs of this branch. Loss in circulation, 10,526.

*Warren Street.* This is a large Jewish centre. The new arrivals, coming from Russia or Poland, are anxious to acquire English as a step toward becoming citizens. The ambitious Russian Jew, who has read the works of Tolstoi, Turgenev and Dostoevski in the original, often asks for the same books in English. There are calls for Italian, and recently for Hungarian books. There are five elementary Hebrew schools and two Hebrew colleges in the district. Most of their students visit the library. The book collection comprises 8,000 volumes, and last year the circulation showed an increase of 13,494.

*West End.* The library district is a small city in itself, only about half a square mile in territory, but with a population of over 70,000 inhabitants. The West End can boast of a railroad terminal, a magnificent Esplanade along the Charles River, a picturesque Ghetto, a convent, a jail, a clinic, a playground. The library, once a church, is architecturally beautiful, an historic landmark, quiet, dignified, yet active within. The constituency is most heterogeneous. As a result of the re-arrangement and re-classification of the books, the collection is a fairly live and workable one, and better rounded out than ever before. The estimated number of visitors is about eight hundred a day; the gain in circulation was 11,797.

*West Roxbury.* This is a reading community. There are

eight circulating libraries and about twenty book clubs in the vicinity of the branch. The library has an excellent picture collection, much used not only in the schools, but also by artists, Normal Art students, etc. Gain in circulation, 6,229.

#### LECTURES AND EXHIBITIONS.

The course of free lectures was given without change as announced in the autumn. As customary, the lists of lectures given under the auspices of the Library and of various civic and other associations, as well as the list of public exhibitions held at the Central Library from the fall of 1923 through the spring of 1924, may be found on pages 71-76 of the Appendix.

The Central Library Lecture Hall was used every week-day evening, with the exception of Thursday, by the Division of University Extension. The Division also used the hall on Friday mornings and Tuesday afternoons, and on six Saturday mornings for lectures in French, in co-operation with the Alliance Française and the Salon Française de Boston. This year, as usual, the Ruskin Club held its fortnightly meetings on Monday afternoons. On the alternate Mondays during the fall, a course of ten lectures on "Building a Better Citizenship," by Rev. J. I. J. Corrigan was held under the auspices of the League of Catholic Women. The hall was used by the New England Poetry Club on the second Wednesday of the month for a series of six open meetings to which the public was welcomed. Frequent use of the Lecture Hall has also been made by organizations holding public meetings, or annual meetings open to the public.

As suggested last year, the addition of a motion picture equipment would greatly add to the popularity of the lecture courses and would open a large field for educational work with children.

#### STAFF INSTRUCTION.

An attractive series of courses was planned for the benefit of employees of the Library during the season 1923-24. Four courses, each running throughout the entire scholastic year, were

offered, two arranged through the Division of University Extension of the State Department of Education, and two given by members of the Library staff. They were as follows:

1. Modern Continental Writers, open to the public, in three series (30 lectures in all), by Prof. Robert E. Rogers of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, whose courses in English and American literature have proved so valuable to members of the staff and the general public during the two years past.
2. Elementary Italian, given by Miss Eleanor M. Colleton of the Hancock School.
3. Work with Children, given by Miss Alice M. Jordan, Supervisor of Work with Children.
4. Reference Work, second course, continuing the work of the previous year, given by Mr. Frank H. Chase, Reference Librarian.

The registration of library employees at the opening of the courses was promising: Modern Continental Writers, first ten lectures, 34 employees, second ten, 21, and third ten, 14; Italian, 30; Work with Children, 12; Reference Work, 15.

The appeal of Prof. Rogers's course, which offers an unusual opportunity for acquaintance with recent European literature, has been wide and the lectures have been attended by assistants in a number of other libraries, as well as by a large number of the general public. The course in Italian meets a long-felt want in enabling library employees to acquire the knowledge of an additional language, both as a resource in the performance of their duties and as a preparation for the language examination required for promotion. The courses in Work with Children and in Reference Work are given on alternate Thursday mornings and are a valuable means of adding to the usefulness of a number of the branch assistants.

#### REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS.

In order to improve the ventilation of the public Lecture Hall in the Copley Square building, a new ten-horse power air washing machine, with electric fan and the necessary connections with air shafts, has been installed. The lighting of the West Gallery in the Special Libraries Department has been improved by the installation of fifteen 300-watt indirect ceiling fixtures.

During the past twelve months a complete new equipment has been placed in the men's public lavatory, as well as in the lavatories used by the men and women employees of the Central Library.

Under contract dated June 2, 1923, the Library Bureau installed the two remaining tiers of steel stacks in the Annex to the main library building. The work was completed and accepted on January 12, 1924. The additional floors provide about two and a half miles of shelving, with capacity to house over 100,000 volumes. The heating and lighting contracts are now under consideration and it is expected that the equipment will be completed early in the new fiscal year. A special appropriation of \$50,000 was allowed for this important extension of shelf room.

During the fall a new boiler was installed at the West End Branch. The interior of this attractive building, the old West Church edifice, a landmark of the West End, has been freshly painted throughout. Major or minor improvements, consisting of painting, increased shelving, better lighting, etc., have also been made at Andrew Square, Hyde Park, Mattapan, Mt. Bowdoin, Parker Hill, Roslindale, Roxbury and West End.

#### RETIREMENTS AND DEATHS.

Chapter 521 of the Acts and Resolves passed by the Legislature of Massachusetts, 1922, entitled "An Act providing retirement allowances based on annuity and pension contributions for employees of the City of Boston or of the County of Suffolk," became effective for city and county employees on February 1, 1923. It creates the Boston Retirement System and provides for the retirement of those employees who grow old or who are injured in service, and for aid to the dependents of any who may be killed in the service. The plan also furnishes a method of automatic saving to those who do not remain long enough to receive retirement allowances. All persons who entered service after February 1, 1923, automatically became members of the retirement system, as a part of their contract of employment.

Under the operation of this law eighteen employees of the

Library Department were retired during the fiscal year 1923-24. Included were Otto Fleischner, Assistant Librarian (retired April 30), entered service 1891; John Murdoch, first assistant, Catalogue Department (retired March 31), entered service 1896; Elizabeth Ainsworth, Librarian, Hyde Park (retired April 30), entered service 1896; Helen M. Bell, Librarian, Fellowes Athenaeum, Roxbury (retired May 31), entered service 1878; Emma G. Capewell, Librarian, Mattapan (retired September 30), entered service 1892; Mary A. Hill, Librarian, Dorchester Lower Mills (retired April 30), entered service 1875; Elizabeth T. Reed, Librarian, Dorchester (retired April 30), entered service 1873; Mary P. Swain, Librarian, Jamaica Plain (retired April 30), entered service 1877; Isabel E. Wetherald, Librarian, Mt. Bowdoin (retired April 30), entered service 1896; Maud M. Morse, Assistant, Branch Issue Division (retired June 30), entered service 1877; Ellen A. Eaton, First Assistant, South Boston (retired March 31), entered service 1873; Alice M. Wing, First Assistant, East Boston (retired April 30), entered service 1873; Catherine T. Donnelly, Sewer, Bindery Department (retired July 31), entered service 1908; Lucy E. Soule, Sewer, Bindery Department (retired April 30), entered service 1891; Charles W. Karlson, Electrician (retired May 31), entered service 1896; John P. Malone, First Assistant Engineer (retired April 30), entered service 1895; Charles W. Murphy, Assistant, Engineer and Janitor Department (retired October 25), entered service 1904; and Mary F. Mullen, Matron, Central Library (retired May 31), entered service 1905.

With regret are noted the following deaths while in service: on December 21, Nellie A. Stone, First Assistant, Hyde Park Branch, who entered service in 1891; and on March 13, George Zittel, Engineer, Central Library, who entered service in 1891.

#### CONCLUSION.

As was pointed out in the report of a year ago, "the time has come when the Library either must lose its scholarly standing or must fail to serve the great reading public in its call for recrea-

tional reading and the less solid books of non-fiction," unless increased funds are at the disposition of the Board of Trustees. Instead of being among the three or four notable free public libraries of the United States, the Boston Library must be content to drop into the second class of these institutions of learning. There is need of money, not only for books of all kinds, but for extended service to the public through new branches, for equipment of a more modern nature, especially in the Central Library, and for a greater number of assistants, adequately trained for the professional positions in a great educational institution.

The Director has the privilege of extending for the last time, with feelings of regret, his appreciation of the devoted service given to the Library through many years, by those ex-members of the staff whose employment came to an end during the year under the Boston Retirement System. A report will seem incomplete without making special mention of the worth and service of Mr. Otto Fleischner, associated with the Library since November 23, 1891, and Assistant Librarian from January 12, 1900, until his retirement on April 30, 1923.

On October 26, 1923, Dr. Frank Herbert Chase, who entered the service of the Library on October 2, 1911, and had been Custodian of Bates Hall Reference Department since May 19, 1916, was appointed to the newly created position of "Reference Librarian, with charge of all matters pertaining to the use of books and such other executive work as may be entrusted to him by the Director." It is a pleasure to commend the zeal and interest shown by Mr. Chase in his new position.

I wish also to acknowledge the loyal support during the year of the Chiefs of Departments, the Branch Librarians, and the members of the staff generally throughout the library system. The credit for the effective work of the Library is theirs, individually and collectively.

CHARLES F. D. BELDEN,  
*Director.*

## APPENDIX.

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TABLES OF CENTRAL AND BRANCH CIRCULATION.

	1918-19	1919-20	1920-21	1921-22	1922-23	1923-24
Central Library .	441,582	507,038	551,190	591,640	590,655	576,997
BRANCHES:						
Brighton .	58,764	71,720	75,273	79,397	83,238	87,672
Charlestown .	70,828	80,900	91,455	98,780	101,140	99,035
Codman Square	78,694	85,246	91,721	101,792	103,810	113,529
Dorchester .	60,513	68,173	68,873	70,396	67,810	75,608
East Boston .	94,971	115,062	111,813	120,234	120,993	125,968
Hyde Park .	70,363	78,444	79,592	80,855	82,498	89,716
Jamaica Plain .	48,306	55,771	58,228	60,507	59,970	64,022
Mt. Bowdoin .	.....	.....	.....	.....	83,376	98,961
North End .	42,123	59,676	69,846	85,187	96,359	107,329
Roslindale .	.....	66,798	73,310	80,879	82,597	89,336
*Roxbury .	71,418	74,024	80,469	80,933	79,125	71,673
South Boston .	89,478	100,602	104,979	121,194	124,809	139,173
South End .	87,465	94,386	99,751	97,403	99,543	111,682
Upham's Corner	100,009	111,186	113,846	119,375	120,257	109,731
Warren Street .	.....	88,720	94,991	104,412	108,665	122,159
West End .	107,181	114,162	123,137	136,431	142,470	154,267
West Roxbury .	51,519	55,273	54,956	66,470	74,970	81,199
Allston .	41,217	43,492	41,369	47,328	53,598	57,705
Andrew Square	27,266	29,726	30,761	33,944	33,413	51,991
Boylston Station	33,163	40,758	44,829	50,033	55,672	62,340
City Point .	43,744	33,784	34,510	30,300	38,381	43,277
Faneuil .	21,571	22,626	24,001	24,913	24,944	27,004
Jeffries Point .	.....	.....	.....	10,309	35,925	40,857
Dor. Lower Mills	17,897	18,308	18,040	17,765	17,577	25,801
Mattapan .	14,757	16,351	16,439	20,499	20,497	27,699
Mt. Bowdoin .	53,200	68,177	73,620	80,492	.....	.....
Mt. Pleasant .	42,690	48,098	49,949	57,562	53,846	52,977
Neponset .	18,474	19,433	22,630	28,789	33,263	40,353
Orient Heights .	14,967	21,133	21,934	27,970	34,240	30,580
Parker Hill .	40,044	52,846	48,891	49,209	49,459	44,081
Roslindale .	56,918	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Roxbury Crossing	37,652	43,232	47,030	57,609	55,911	57,869
Tyler Street .	12,556	15,587	31,343	40,039	39,973	42,270
Warren Street .	78,723	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total .	2,028,053	2,300,732	2,448,776	2,672,646	2,768,984	2,922,861

\*Renamed Fellowes Athenæum in 1923.



The net gains and losses in circulation are presented, apart from the totals, in the following form:

	VOLUMES.
1918-19 loss from preceding year . . . . .	46,402
1919-20 gain over preceding year . . . . .	272,679
1920-21 gain over preceding year . . . . .	148,044
1921-22 gain over preceding year . . . . .	223,870
1922-23 gain over preceding year . . . . .	96,338
1923-24 gain over preceding year . . . . .	153,877

USE OF BOOKS.

CIRCULATION FROM CENTRAL BY MONTHS.

	HOME USE DIRECT.	HOME USE THROUGH BRANCH DEPT.	SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS THROUGH BRANCH DEPT.	TOTALS
February, 1923 . . . . .	33,845	11,962	15,804	61,611
March, " . . . . .	32,054	11,563	16,165	59,782
April, " . . . . .	32,050	10,973	16,685	59,708
May, " . . . . .	28,829	8,959	18,965	56,753
June, " . . . . .	23,746	7,231	16,355	47,332
July, " . . . . .	18,043	5,206	2,240	25,489
August, " . . . . .	20,035	5,213	2,100	27,348
September, " . . . . .	19,070	4,697	2,005	26,042
October, " . . . . .	24,189	6,955	7,385	38,529
November, " . . . . .	32,498	11,191	12,500	56,189
December, " . . . . .	33,558	12,788	15,700	62,046
January, 1924 . . . . .	30,911	10,242	15,015	56,168
Totals . . . . .	328,828	107,250	140,919	576,997

DISTRIBUTION OF TOTAL CIRCULATION.

	HOME USE.	SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS.	TOTAL.
CENTRAL LIBRARY:			
a. Direct . . . . .	328,828		
b. Through Branches . . . . .	107,250		
c. Schools and Institutions through Branch Department . . . . .		140,919	576,997
BRANCHES:			
Allston . . . . .	57,705	. . . . .	57,705
Andrew Square . . . . .	51,991	. . . . .	51,991
Boylston Station . . . . .	60,871	1,469	62,340
Brighton . . . . .	53,789	33,883	87,672
Charlestown . . . . .	88,402	10,633	99,035
City Point . . . . .	43,277	. . . . .	43,277
Codman Square . . . . .	105,559	7,970	113,529
Dorchester . . . . .	64,082	11,526	75,608
Dorchester Lower Mills . . . . .	25,706	95	25,801
East Boston . . . . .	106,240	19,728	125,968
Carried forward . . . . .	657,622	85,304	742,926

	HOME USE.	SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS.	TOTAL.
<i>Brought forward</i> . . . . .	657,622	85,304	742,926
Faneuil . . . . .	27,004	.....	27,004
†Fellowes Athenæum . . . . .	57,685	13,988	71,673
Hyde Park . . . . .	77,260	12,456	89,716
Jamaica Plain . . . . .	52,022	12,000	64,022
Jeffries Point . . . . .	40,857	.....	40,857
Mattapan . . . . .	27,699	.....	27,699
Mt. Bowdoin . . . . .	97,974	987	98,961
Mt. Pleasant . . . . .	52,977	.....	52,977
Neponset . . . . .	40,353	.....	40,353
North End . . . . .	104,293	3,036	107,329
Orient Heights . . . . .	30,580	.....	30,580
Parker Hill . . . . .	44,081	.....	44,081
Roslindale . . . . .	84,307	5,029	89,336
Roxbury Crossing . . . . .	57,677	192	57,869
South Boston . . . . .	120,018	19,155	139,173
South End . . . . .	96,472	15,210	111,682
Tyler Street . . . . .	41,730	540	42,270
Upham's Corner . . . . .	102,587	7,144	109,731
Warren Street . . . . .	121,088	1,071	122,159
West End . . . . .	134,925	19,342	154,267
West Roxbury . . . . .	66,488	14,711	81,199
	<u>2,135,699</u>	<u>210,165</u>	<u>2,345,864</u>

These figures are condensed into the following:

*Books lent for home use, including circulation through  
schools and institutions.*

From Central Library (including Central Library books issued through the branches) . . . . .	576,997
From branches (excluding books received from Central Library) . . . . .	2,345,864
Total . . . . .	<u>2,922,861</u>

COMPARATIVE.	1922-23.	1923-24.
Central Library circulation (excluding schools and institutions):		
Direct home use . . . . .	344,970	328,828
Through branches and *reading rooms . . . . .	<u>111,067</u>	<u>107,250</u>
	456,037	436,078
Branch Department circulation (ex- cluding schools and institutions):		
Direct home use		
From branch collections . . . . .	1,439,907	2,135,699
From *reading rooms . . . . .	<u>545,718</u>	<u>          </u>
	1,985,625	2,135,699
Schools and institutions circulation (in- cluding books from Central through the Branch system) . . . . .	<u>327,322</u>	<u>351,084</u>
	<u>2,768,984</u>	<u>2,922,861</u>

† Hitherto known as Roxbury Branch. \* Classed as branches in 1923-24.

Under the inter-library loan system with other libraries the following use of books for the purpose of serious research is shown for two successive year:

	1922-23.	1923-24.
Volumes lent from this Library to other libraries in Massachusetts	1,344	1,596
Lent to libraries outside of Massachusetts . . . . .	282	246
<b>Totals . . . . .</b>	<b>1,626</b>	<b>1,842</b>
Applications refused:		
From libraries in Massachusetts . . . . .	442	462
From libraries outside of Massachusetts . . . . .	110	92
<b>Totals . . . . .</b>	<b>552</b>	<b>554</b>
Borrowed from other libraries for use here . . . . .	28	35

The classified "home-use" circulation of the branches and reading rooms was as follows, for two successive years:

	1922-23.		1923-24.	
<b>BRANCHES:</b>	<b>VOLUMES.</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE.</b>	<b>VOLUMES.</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE.</b>
Fiction for adults . . . . .	435,081	30.31	665,125	31.2
Non-fiction for adults . . . . .	152,036	10.6	218,105	10.2
Juvenile fiction . . . . .	537,641	37.5	769,182	36.1
Juvenile non-fiction . . . . .	309,622	21.5	477,813	22.4
<b>*READING ROOMS:</b>				
Fiction . . . . .	370,559	67.8		
Non-fiction . . . . .	175,159	32.2		

At the Central Library the classified "home-use" circulation shows the following percentages:

	1922-23.	1923-24.
	PERCENTAGES.	PERCENTAGES.
Fiction . . . . .	47.86+	47.9
Non-fiction . . . . .	52.13+	52.1

## BOOK ACCESSIONS.

### BOOKS ACQUIRED BY PURCHASE.

	1922-23.	1923-24.
<b>For the Central Library:</b>		
From City appropriation . . . . .	7,440	6,805
From trust funds income . . . . .	4,701	4,032
	<hr/> 12,141	<hr/> 10,837
<b>For branches and reading rooms:</b>		
From City appropriation . . . . .	55,311	50,147
From trust funds income . . . . .	....	4
	<hr/> 55,311	<hr/> 50,151
<b>By Fellows Athenæum (for the Roxbury Branch) . . . . .</b>	<b>622</b>	<b>1,178</b>
<b>Totals . . . . .</b>	<b>68,074</b>	<b>62,166</b>

\*Classed as branches in 1923-24.

Of the 1,283 volumes acquired by the Fellowes Athenæum during the past year, 1,178 were purchases, 73 were gifts, and 32 were of periodicals bound.

The following statement includes the accessions by purchase combined with books received by gift or otherwise:

	CENTRAL.	BRANCHES.	TOTAL VOLUMES.
Accessions by purchase (including 1178 volumes by Fellowes Athenæum) . . . . .	10,837	51,329	62,166
Accessions by gift (including 73 volumes for Fellowes Athenæum) . . . . .	9,082	2,052	11,134
Accessions by Statistical Department . . . . .	96	....	96
Accessions by exchange . . . . .	44	....	44
Accessions by periodicals bound (including 32 for Fellowes Athenæum) . . . . .	1,827	132	1,959
Accessions of newspapers bound . . . . .	135	....	135
	<u>22,021</u>	<u>53,513</u>	<u>75,534</u>

### THE CATALOGUE.

	VOLS. AND PARTS.	TITLES.	VOLS. AND PARTS.	TITLES.
Catalogued (new):	1922-23.		1923-24.	
Central Library Catalogue . . . . .	25,533	15,731	22,172	14,471
Serials . . . . .	4,127	....	4,528	....
Branches . . . . .	48,007	39,937	48,616	42,113
Recatalogued . . . . .	14,056	7,178	14,791	7,709
Totals . . . . .	<u>91,723</u>	<u>62,846</u>	<u>90,107</u>	<u>64,293</u>

### SHELF DEPARTMENT.

The number of volumes shelved and thus made available for public use, taken from the report of the Shelf Department, is

Placed on the Central Library shelves during the year:

General collection, new books (including continuations) . . . . .	20,910
Special collections, new books and transfers . . . . .	2,194
Books reported lost or missing in previous years, but now found, transfers from branches, etc. . . . .	1,493
	<u>24,597</u>

Removed from Central Library shelves during the year:

Books reported lost or missing, condemned copies not yet replaced, transfers, etc. . . . .	10,086
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Net gain, Central Library . . . . .	14,511
Net gain at branches . . . . .	9,436
Net gain, entire library system . . . . .	<u>23,947</u>

The total number of volumes available for public use at the end of each year since the formation of the Library is shown in the following statement:

1852-53 . . . . .	9,688	1888 . . . . .	505,872
1853-54 . . . . .	16,221	1889 . . . . .	520,508
1854-55 . . . . .	22,617	1890 . . . . .	536,027
1855-56 . . . . .	28,080	1891 . . . . .	556,283
1856-57 . . . . .	34,896	1892 . . . . .	576,237
1857-58 . . . . .	70,851	1893 . . . . .	597,152
1858-59 . . . . .	78,043	1894 . . . . .	610,375
1859-60 . . . . .	85,031	1895 . . . . .	628,297
1860-61 . . . . .	97,386	1896-97 . . . . .	663,763
1861-62 . . . . .	105,034	1897-98 . . . . .	698,888
1862-63 . . . . .	110,563	1898-99 . . . . .	716,050
1863-64 . . . . .	116,934	1899-1900 . . . . .	746,383
1864-65 . . . . .	123,016	1900-01 . . . . .	781,377
1865-66 . . . . .	130,678	1901-02 . . . . .	812,264
1866-67 . . . . .	136,080	1902-03 . . . . .	835,904
1867-68 . . . . .	144,092	1903-04 . . . . .	848,884
1868-69 . . . . .	152,796	1904-05 . . . . .	871,050
1869-70 . . . . .	160,573	1905-06 . . . . .	878,933
1870-71 . . . . .	179,250	1906-07 . . . . .	903,349
1871-72 . . . . .	192,958	1907-08 . . . . .	922,348
1872-73 . . . . .	209,456	1908-09 . . . . .	941,024
1873-74 . . . . .	260,550	1909-10 . . . . .	961,522
1874-75 . . . . .	276,918	1910-11 . . . . .	987,268
1875-76 . . . . .	297,873	1911-12 . . . . .	1,006,717
1876-77 . . . . .	312,010	1912-13 . . . . .	1,049,011
1877-78 . . . . .	345,734	1913-14 . . . . .	1,067,103
1878-79 . . . . .	360,963	1914-15 . . . . .	1,098,702
1879-80 . . . . .	377,225	1915-16 . . . . .	1,121,747
1880-81 . . . . .	390,982	1916-17 . . . . .	1,139,682
1881-82 . . . . .	404,221	1917-18 . . . . .	1,157,326
1882-83 . . . . .	422,116	1918-19 . . . . .	1,173,695
1883-84 . . . . .	438,594	1919-20 . . . . .	1,197,498
1884-85 . . . . .	453,947	1920-21 . . . . .	1,224,510
1885 . . . . .	460,993	1921-22 . . . . .	1,258,211
1886 . . . . .	479,421	1922-23 . . . . .	1,284,094
1887 . . . . .	492,956	1923-24 . . . . .	1,308,041
Volumes in entire library system . . . . .			1,308,041
Volumes in the branches and reading rooms . . . . .			334,599

These volumes are located as follows:

Central Library . . . . .	973,442	East Boston . . . . .	21,324
Allston . . . . .	4,469	Faneuil . . . . .	3,766
Andrew Square . . . . .	4,050	*Fellowes Athenæum . . . . .	36,315
Boylston Station . . . . .	4,657	Hyde Park . . . . .	33,238
Brighton . . . . .	18,000	Jamaica Plain . . . . .	17,392
Charlestown . . . . .	15,114	Jeffries Point . . . . .	2,402
City Point . . . . .	5,819	Mattapan . . . . .	2,264
Codman Square . . . . .	8,830	Mt. Bowdoin . . . . .	8,509
Dorchester . . . . .	13,546	Mt. Pleasant . . . . .	5,723
Dorchester Lower Mills . . . . .	1,711	Neponset . . . . .	3,171

\*Hitherto known as Roxbury Branch.

North End . . . . .	9,877	South End . . . . .	14,212
Orient Heights . . . . .	4,025	Tyler Street . . . . .	4,680
Parker Hill . . . . .	2,750	Upham's Corner . . . . .	12,846
Roslindale . . . . .	10,736	Warren Street . . . . .	8,740
Roxbury Crossing . . . . .	5,078	West End . . . . .	19,502
South Boston . . . . .	18,872	West Roxbury . . . . .	12,981

### THE PRINTING DEPARTMENT.

	1922-23.	1923-24.
Requisitions received and filled . . . . .	299	294
Card Catalogue (Central Library):		
Titles exclusive of automatic reprint . . . . .	12,816	13,962
Cards finished (exclusive of extras) . . . . .	184,666	203,109
Card Catalogue (Branches):		
Titles (Printing Dept. count) . . . . .	480	704
Cards finished (exclusive of extras) . . . . .	27,967	41,536
Signs . . . . .	1,603	2,518
Blank forms (numbered series) . . . . .	4,202,276	3,751,465
Forms, circulars and sundries (outside numbered series) . . . . .	30,352	83,446
Catalogues and pamphlets . . . . .	177,000	157,691

### THE BINDERY.

	1922-23.	1923-24.
Number of volumes bound in various styles . . . . .	48,544	52,483
Magazines stitched . . . . .	265	237
Volumes repaired . . . . .	2,141	2,245
Volumes guarded . . . . .	1,169	1,941
Maps mounted . . . . .	64	65
Photographs and engravings, &c., mounted . . . . .	2,929	3,295
Library publications folded, stitched and trimmed . . . . .	175,532	157,161

### THE LECTURES OF 1923-1924.

All lectures, except those marked with an asterisk (\*) were illustrated with lantern slides.

1923

- Oct. 11. Famous Mothers of History. Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Stodola and Mignon Rounds Gowan.
- Oct. 8. \*Art. Hulda Geist.
- Oct. 8. \*American Poetry. Harriette Fletcher McKinnon. (Ruskin Club.)
- Oct. 14. Columbus Day as a Get-Together Holiday. Frank Chouteau Brown. (Boston Conservation Bureau.)
- Oct. 18. Sunny Italy in Art and Story. Mrs. James Frederick Hopkins.
- Oct. 21. \*The Story of Joyce Kilmer. Rev. William M. Stinson, S.J.
- Oct. 22. \*The Spirit of Recent Poetry. Rev. Henry Hallam Saunderson. (Ruskin Club.)
- Oct. 25. The Evolution of the Garden. Mary Harrod Northend.

- Oct. 28. \*A Shakespearian Tercentenary and its Significance. E. Charlton Black. (Drama League Course.)
- Nov. 1. Wild Life in the Blue Mountain Forest. Ernest Harold Baynes.
- Nov. 4. Sunny Hours in Sunny Spain. Francis Henry Wade, M.D.
- Nov. 8. Seal Fishing in the Arctic: a Personal Experience. George Allan England.
- Nov. 11. English Cathedrals: their Architecture, History and Legends. Emily M. B. Warren, A.R.B.A., B.W.S.
- Nov. 12. \*Industrial Arts Developed by John Ruskin. Mrs. May Smith Dean. (Ruskin Club.)
- Nov. 14. \*Emily Dickinson. Robert Silliman Hillyer. (New England Poetry Club.)
- Nov. 15. Camping in our National Forests. Philip W. Ayres. (Field and Forest Club Course.)
- Nov. 18. \*William Byrd and his Contemporaries. Sarah M. Gough.
- Nov. 22. Ancestor Hunting in England. J. Gardner Bartlett.
- Nov. 25. "Our City of Boston Today." Hon. Michael J. Murray. (Boston Conservation Bureau.)
- Nov. 26. \*The British Poets. Charles Hammond Gibson. (Ruskin Club.)
- Dec. 2. \*Reading of Shakespeare's "King Henry IV, Part I." By members of local Shakespeare Clubs. (Drama League Course.)
- Dec. 6. What Pictures to see in America. Martha A. S. Shannon.
- Dec. 9. Imperial India. John C. Bowker, F.R.G.S.
- Dec. 10. \*Agassiz and Ruskin — Interpreters of Nature. Rev. Davis Wasgatt Clark, D.D. (Ruskin Club.)
- Dec. 9. Imperial India. John C. Bowker, F.R.G.S.
- Dec. 12. \*Amy Lowell. S. Foster Damon. (New England Poetry Club.)
- Dec. 13. Skyline Adventures. Walter Collins O'Kane, A.M. (Field and Forest Club Course.)
- Dec. 16. \*Bells and Bell Ringing. Mrs. Arthur A. Shurtleff.
- Dec. 17. \*Music: Arranged by Mrs. Arthur H. Davison. Christmas Message. Mrs. Minnie Meserve Soule. (Ruskin Club.)
- Dec. 20. The Passing of the Old West. Lt. Col. Charles Wellington Furlong, F.R.G.S.
- Dec. 23. \*"The Light of the Star." A Christmas Pageant. By the Community Service of Boston.
- Dec. 27. \*Christmas Reading: "The Story of the Other Wise Man," by Henry Van Dyke. F. Beatrice King, assisted by Jean Wood Lynch.
- Dec. 30. \*Message of Music, or the Art Work of the Future. Mme. Beale Morey.

1924

- Jan. 3. Raphael Sanzio, Prince among Painters. Charles Theodore Carruth.
- Jan. 6. The Making of a Picture. Philip L. Hale, A.N.A.
- Jan. 9. \*Edwin Arlington Robinson. Abbie Farwell Brown. (New England Poetry Club.)
- Jan. 10. Tip Top Times in the Mountains: Two Weeks Hiking on White Mountain Trails with the Field and Forest Club. Rev. Charles W. Casson. (Field and Forest Club Course.)
- Jan. 13. \*What Women are doing for Music. Mrs. William Arms Fisher.
- Jan. 14. \*What's What in Books. John Clair Minot. (Ruskin Club.)
- Jan. 17. "Boston in the Next Twenty-Five Years." His Honor, the Mayor, James M. Curley. (Boston Conservation Bureau.)
- Jan. 20. \*The Contemporary Movement in the French Theatre from Antoine to Copeau. Samuel M. Waxman, Ph.D. (Drama League Course.)
- Jan. 24. A Trip to Palestine. Anton Hanania.
- Jan. 27. Adventures of a Sage Brush Tourist in Wyoming. (W. Lyman Underwood.
- Jan. 28. \*Ruskin in the Life of To-Day. Rev. Joseph P. MacCarthy, Ph.D. (Ruskin Club.)
- Jan. 31. The Wonders of the Heavens. Rev. Manly Bacon Townsend.
- Feb. 3. \*Pirandello and the Modern Italian Theatre. Robert E. Rogers, A.M. (Drama League Course.)
- Feb. 7. The Wonderland of America. Mrs. Arthur D. Ropes.
- Feb. 8. \*105th Anniversary of the Birth of John Ruskin. Dr. Payson Smith. (Ruskin Club.)
- Feb. 10. Abraham Lincoln. Guy Richardson.
- Feb. 11. \*The Causes of the American Civil War: Lincoln and Webster. Joseph Whipple. (Ruskin Club.)
- Feb. 13. \*Sarah Teasdale, "H. D." (Hilda Doolittle Aldington) and Edna St. Vincent Millay: their Treatment of the Theme of Love. Joseph Auslander. (New England Poetry Club.)
- Feb. 14. The Appalachian Mountain Club Huts and their Relations with the Trampers. Milton E. MacGregor. (Field and Forest Club Course.)
- Feb. 17. \*Organs and Choirs of Greater Boston. Henry C. Lahee.
- Feb. 21. A Program for Washington's Birthday. Charles F. Read. (Boston Conservation Bureau.)
- Feb. 24. \*Shakespeare's Response to "What the Public Wants." John Livingston Lowes, Ph.D.



- Feb. 25. Bonnie Scotland: the Land of Broom and Heather. Mrs. Arthur D. Ropes. (Ruskin Club.)
- Feb. 28. The World in its True Colors: a Travel-Talk. Helen Messinger Murdoch, F.R.P.S.
- Mar. 2. Expressionism in the Theatre. Albert H. Gilmer, A.M. (Drama League Course.)
- Mar. 6. Italian Gardens. Robert N. Cram.
- Mar. 9. \*Books and Life. Horace G. Wadlin, Litt.D.
- Mar. 10. Around the Bay of Naples. Ellen C. Page. (Ruskin Club.)
- Mar. 12. \*Carl Sandburg. Amy Lowell. (New England Poetry Club.)
- Mar. 13. The Call of the Mountains. Le Roy Jeffers. (Field and Forest Club Course.)
- Mar. 16. \*Master Music for Young People. Malcolm Lang.
- Mar. 20. Our Guardians of Life and Property. Speakers from the Boston Fire and Police Departments. (Boston Conservation Bureau.)
- Mar. 23. \*Fundamentals in the Theatre, Old and New. F. W. C. Hersey, A.M. (Drama League Course.)
- Mar. 24. \*The Value of Critical Literature. Henry Austin Higgins. (Ruskin Club.)
- Mar. 27. Browning and Ruskin: Prophets of the Twentieth Century. Agnes Knox Black.
- Mar. 30. The Bible in Stained Glass. Joseph G. Reynolds, Jr.
- Apr. 3. Gothic Grandeur: how Rheims Cathedral was built. Rev. William M. Stinson, S.J.
- Apr. 5. \*Igor Stravinsky: "Le Sacre du Printemps." Laurence V. Powell.
- Apr. 6. Recreational Opportunities of Boston. Mrs. Eva W. White. (Boston Conservation Bureau.)
- Apr. 9. \*Robert Frost. Norreys Jephson O'Connor, A.M. (New England Poetry Club.)
- Apr. 10. The Revelation of Spain. Ralph Adams Cram, Litt.D., LL.D.
- Apr. 13. William Blake's Interpretation of the Book of Job. S. Foster Damon.
- Apr. 14. Joan of Arc: the Genius of Patriotism. Mrs. James Frederick Hopkins. (Ruskin Club.)
- Apr. 17. Southern Utah and the High Sierras: Our New National Parks. George H. Browne, A.M.
- Apr. 20. \*Music of the Passover: a Program for Easter. Henry Gideon, A.M., and assistants.
- Apr. 28. \*The Art Ruskin has given us. Royal B. Farnum. (Ruskin Club.)

PUBLIC EXHIBITIONS, 1923-1924.

1923

- May** "Home Sweet Home" Centennial exhibition of music editions.  
Bernhardt Wall's series of etchings "The Russian Players in America" and a collection of prints illustrating the Moscow Art Theatre Players in their Boston repertory.  
Shakespeare First Folios and Quartos.  
Loan collection of Czecho-Slovakian glassware and other art hand-work, lent by W. V. Slocum and others. Views of Czecho-Slovakian cities; books and music illustrating national costumes, folk-dances, etc.
- June** "See America First" a collection of artistic photos of American scenery by Thomas Ellison.  
Books and prints on Freemasonry.
- July** Sir Joshua Reynolds, born July 16, 1723. Books, color prints, collotypes and photos illustrating his work.
- Aug.** Views of Old New England. Historic houses, etc.  
Canadian Pacific Railway color posters.
- Sept.** Fifty books of 1923.  
Francis Parkman.
- Oct.** "The Holy Experiment"—color reproductions of Violet Oakley's murals in the Pennsylvania State Capitol.  
Reproductions of drawings by Old Masters in the Uffizi.  
Formal gardens.  
Bibliographic exhibition commemorating the Tercentenary of Shakespeare's First Folio.
- Nov.** "The Holy Experiment," resumed by request.  
Emily M. B. Warren's original water-colors of English church interiors.  
Photos of English cathedrals and abbeys.  
Works of Saint Augustin (manuscripts and incunabula).  
Historical book-bindings.  
Unpublished letters of Emily Dickinson.
- Dec.** Views of India.  
Color prints of the Nativity and the Madonna — a Christmas exhibition.  
New books suitable for Christmas gifts.  
Reproductions in color of designs for Sèvres porcelain.  
Sir Isaac Newton's works in older editions.

1924

- Jan.** Color prints of Raphael's Madonnas.  
White Mountain scenery.

- Frankliniana — manuscripts, rare editions, old prints, etc. from the Library's collection.
- Feb. The Wonderland of America (photographs).  
 "House Beautiful" cover-design competition.  
 "Round the World," photographs by Helen M. Murdoch.  
 Galileo's works.
- Mar. Views of Italian gardens.  
 Beadle collection of dime novels, lent by Dr. Frank P. O'Brien.  
 Tributes to Franklin, collected by the N. Y. Chapter of Sons of the American Revolution.  
 Stained glass (cartoons and examples), loaned by Reynolds, Francis & Rohnstock.  
 Centenary of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony (books and manuscripts).  
 History and art of Ireland.
- April Massachusetts Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, poster-design competition.  
 Tributes to Charles William Eliot on his ninetieth birthday.  
 Original designs for picture-play settings, "The Thief of Bagdad."  
 Byron centenary exhibition of rare editions.

#### LIST OF IMPORTANT GIFTS AND GIVERS.

The following list comprises a selection of the more important gifts of the year with names of the givers:

- Academia das Sciencias de Lisboa. Ten volumes, publications of the Academy, including four volumes of a series commemorating the fifth centenary of the capture of Ceuta.
- Alden, Frank W., New York. The descendants of Daniel Alden, who was sixth in descent from John Alden. Private edition. 1923.
- Ambassade de Belgique, Washington, D. C. Le grand voyage du Roi des Belges aux États-Unis d'Amérique. Par Frank Ansel. Bruxelles. 1921.
- Berg, Francis J. Cyclopedia of engineering. Chicago. 1920, 21. 7 v. Standard American Locomotive Engineering. Chicago. 1907.
- Boston City Messenger. Boston, 1822-1922. The story of its government and principal activities during one hundred years. By John Koren. Boston. 1922. 35 copies.
- Boston Real Estate Exchange. Assessed value of real estate in Boston. 1922, 1923.
- Bourdillon, Mrs. Agnes, Oxford, England. Preludes and romances. London. 1908; Moth-wings. London. 1913; A lost God. Illustrations by H. J. Ford. London. 1891; Aucassin & Nicolette. An old French love story. By Francis W. Bourdillon. 1897.

- Bradford, Gamaliel, Wellesley Hills. *Damaged souls*. By Gamaliel Bradford. Boston. 1923.
- British Museum. *The fall of Nineveh. A newly discovered Babylonian chronicle in the British Museum*. Edited by C. J. Gadd. London. 1923.
- Buker, Horace, Rockford, Ill. Fifty-five copies of the Rockford Republic (1922), containing a series entitled "The Cradle of Baseball," by Horace Buker.
- Codman, Miss Martha C., Washington, D. C. *The journal of Mrs. John Amory (Katherine Greene) 1775-1777. With letters from her father, Rufus Greene*. Edited from manuscripts by Martha C. Codman. Privately printed. Boston. 1923.
- Conservatoire Royale de Musique, Bruxelles. *Catalogue descriptif & analytique du Musée instrumental du Conservatoire*. Par Victor Charles Mahillin. Numéros 1 à 3300. Gand. 1893-1922. 5 v.
- Cook, Theodore Andrea, London. *Leonardo da Vinci, sculptor. An illustrated essay on the Albizzi Madonna, formerly known as the Signa Madonna, carved by Leonardo in 1478*. By Theodore Andrea Cook. London. 1923. Sent at the request of Mr. John S. Sargent.
- Covey, Arthur S., Pelham Manor, N. Y. *Nine photographs of the mural decorations painted for William Filene's Sons Co. by Arthur Covey*.
- Critchett, C. H. *Nineteen directories of New England cities and towns. For the Information Room*.
- Crosby, Mrs. Stephen Van R. *Seventy-nine volumes of miscellaneous works and 60 numbers of periodicals*.
- Dexter, George B. *The lure of amateur collecting*. By George Blake Dexter. Boston. 1923.
- Dixon, Willis Milnor, Los Angeles. *Kith and kin. Containing genealogical data of the families Dixon, Andrus, Battin, Beal and others*. By Willis M. Dixon. Los Angeles. 1922.
- Drama League of Boston. *375 volumes and 133 numbers of periodicals. This gift comprises, in books of plays, the work of seventy-five authors represented in ninety-eight different titles, all standard and largely modern, in acting editions with stage directions; in periodicals, current numbers of The Theatre Magazine and the Theatre Arts Magazine and the publications of the Drama League*.
- Eaton, Miss L. W. *Scrap-book of programs of Boston theatres, 1876-1877*.
- Edes, Mrs. Henry H., Cambridge. *Annals of the Harvard Class of 1852*. By Grace Williamson Edes. Privately printed. Cambridge. 1922.
- Fowle, C. H., Williamstown. *Yankee Doodle, 1846-1847; Sunday Mercury, 1848 and 1871; New York Ledger, 1855-1856; New York Mercury, 1859*.

- Gallagher, Sears. Two etchings by Sears Gallagher: Fishing boats, T Wharf; In the Fenway.
- Gould, Miss Susan C. 107 autographed photographs, portraits of celebrated people, presented to Elizabeth Porter Gould.
- Gray, Roland. 200 volumes, miscellaneous works, 92 books for the blind and 50 numbers of current periodicals.
- Great Britain. Patent Office. Patents for inventions. 108 volumes.
- Green, Mrs. Georgia R. Harper's Encyclopaedia of United States history. From 458 A.D. to 1907. 10 v.
- The Grolier Club, New York City. A descriptive catalogue of the first editions in book form of the writings of Percy Bysshe Shelley, based on a memorial exhibition held at the Grolier Club, from April 20 to May 20, 1922. By Ruth S. Grannis. New York. 1923.
- Hale, Philip. Three volumes for the Music Collection.
- Harper, Henry Howard. Letters and poems of Queen Elisabeth (Carmen Sylva). With introduction by Henry Howard Harper. Boston. 1920. 2 v.; Pope's Epistle: Eloisa to Abelard. With introduction and notes by Henry Howard Harper. Original copperplate etchings by W. H. W. Bicknell. Boston. 1923. Both printed for members of the Bibliophile Society.
- Heartman, Charles F., Metuchen, N. J. The Cradle of the United States. Contemporary broadside, pamphlets and books pertaining to pre-Revolutionary troubles, the War of Independence and the adoption of the Federal Constitution. Described by Charles F. Heartman. 100 copies printed.
- Hills, Frederick S., Albany. Genealogical notes on the Smock family in the United States. Compiled by John C. Smock. Albany. 1922; New York State men. James H. Manning, editor. Albany. 1922. 8 parts. Portraits; New York State women. James H. Manning, editor. Albany. 1922. 2 parts. Portraits.
- Howland, Gerald S. Have faith in Coolidge. By Eugene M. Weeks. Boston. 1923. Twenty copies.
- Johnson, Frederick. Genealogical tables of the Johnson family. Together with additional facts, etc., relating to the same family. 1893.
- Jonnesco, Madame Marie, through Frederick A. DePilis, New York City. Roumania. By Madame Marie Jonnesco. Introduction by Queen Marie of Roumania. New York. 1923.
- Kennedy, Miss Mildred. 758 photographs, various subjects, including photographs of foreign architecture.
- Lebon, Charles, former Professor of French in the English High School. 219 volumes of French history and literature by French writers of eminence. This collection is especially strong in the history of France and includes, besides many others, the historical works of Michelet, Lamartine, Sainte-Beuve and Bossuet. There is also an interesting group of books relating to Molière and an edition of the Complete works

- of Molière not possessed by this library; an edition of Ronsard's Works in ten volumes, published in 1604, and Anthology of French poetry, 1752-1866, in four quarto volumes.
- Lee, Joseph. 106 volumes, miscellaneous works.
- Leonard, Clarence E., Yonkers, N. M. The Fulton-Hayden-Warner ancestry in America. By Clarence E. Leonard. New York. 1923.
- Metropolitan Museum of Art, Trustees. Robb DePeyster Tytus Memorial Series: The tomb of Puyemrê at Thebes. By Norman de Garvis Davies. New York. 1922. 2 v. Sent at the request of Mrs. Edward J. Tytus.
- Morss, Mrs. Everett. 135 volumes of miscellaneous works, including a number of volumes of fiction and 86 periodicals.
- Moyer, James A. Introduction to music appreciation and history. By Dorothy Tremble Moyer. Boston. 1923. 2 copies.
- Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. Catalogue of the Indian collection in the Museum. By Ananda Coomaraswamy. Boston. 1923.
- National Shawmut Bank of Boston. The port of Boston. Prepared by the National Shawmut Bank. Boston. 1923. 38 copies.
- New York State Shorthand Reporters' Association, Brooklyn. Proceedings of the Association, 24 volumes (completing the Library file).
- O'Connell, William, Cardinal. Sermons and addresses of his Eminence William, Cardinal O'Connell, Archbishop of Boston. Boston. 1922. 7 v.
- O'Reilly, Rev. James T., O.S.A., Lawrence. Controversies between Royal Governors and their Assemblies in the Northern American Colonies. By John F. Burns, O.S.A. Privately printed. Boston. 1923.
- Page, L. C., & Co. Eight of their publications, including The new Poland, by Nevin O. Winter. Boston. 1923.
- Page, Walter Gilman. Eight photographs from paintings by Walter Gilman Page.
- Peirce, Mrs. Helen M., Northport, Me. Two volumes of material in manuscript and print relating to the recruiting of Massachusetts troops in the Civil War. One volume consists of correspondence chiefly between Brigadier General Richard A. Peirce and Governor Andrew and Edwin M. Stanton. The second volume contains a collection of General and Special Orders issued at the Headquarters of the Adjutant General, Boston, 1863-1864. This valuable and unusually complete file of General Orders and of war-time correspondence has been placed in the 20th Regiment Collection.
- Phoenix Chamber of Commerce, Phoenix, Ariz. Twenty-five photographs of scenes in East Central Arizona, including farms and vineyards, the Roosevelt Dam, the two great canals and the City of Phoenix.
- Quaritch, Bernard, London. A catalogue of books printed in Europe during the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries. London. 1923; A cata-

- logue of English and foreign bookbindings offered for sale by Bernard Quaritch. London. 1921.
- Quincy, Mrs. Josiah H. Framed picture for West Roxbury Branch. The panorama of the Great Wall of China.
- Rossi, L. Melano. Storia letteraria d'Italia scritta da una Società di Professori. Milano. 1897. 9 v.; Storia politica d'Italia scritta da una Società di Professori. Milano. 1897. 9 v.
- Royal Academy of Sciences of Amsterdam. Summaries of scientific work in the fields of oceanography, meteorology, etc., in the Indian Archipelago and adjacent islands. 6 v.
- Sayler, Oliver M. The story of the Moscow Art Theatre, 1898-1923. Introduction by Oliver M. Sayler.
- Schenkl, J. Pauline, Estate of. Seventy three volumes, by Lytton, Schiller, Scott, Thackeray and others.
- Schirmer, G., through Mr. O. G. Sonneck, New York. Six volumes of music, folk songs and operas. For Brown Collection of Music.
- Schmitt, Albert Felix. The Albert Felix Schmitt exhibition held at the galleries of the Boston Art Club, 1921, and 22 photographs of paintings by A. F. Schmitt.
- Sonneck, O. G., New York. Studies in song. 6 pieces. By O. G. Sonneck. For the Brown Collection of Music.
- Sprague, Phineas Warren. (Through C. F. Libbie & Co.) The Spragues of Malden, Massachusetts. By George Walter Chamberlain. Privately printed. Boston. 1923.
- Second Battalion Armory, New York. Second Battalion, Naval Militia, New York. Outline history, 1897-1922. (New York, 1922.)
- Shepley, George L., Providence. A Rhode Island slaver. Trade book of the sloop Adventure, 1773-1774. From the original manuscript in the Library of George L. Shepley. Providence. 1922.
- Tudor, Mrs. Frederick, Jr. Photograph of painting of Rear Admiral Charles Stewart, U. S. Navy, by Sully.
- Tuesday Shakespere Class. (Through Mrs. Josiah Quincy.) The letters of Horace Howard Furness. Boston. 1922. 2 v. For West Roxbury Branch.
- U. S. Shipping Board: Emergency Fleet Corporation. Planning a trip abroad. Edited by Edward Hungerford. New York. 1923. Thirty-five copies for distribution in Branch Libraries.
- Vassar College Library. Vassar mediaeval studies. Edited by Christabel F. Fiske. New Haven. 1923.
- Vocational Committee of the Boston Branch of the American Association of University Women, through June R. Donnelly. A check for ten dollars to be expended in the purchase of material on vocations.
- Walsh, Hon. David I. Speeches of Hon. David I. Walsh, U. S. Senate, 1919-1922. Autographed copy.
- Warner, Joseph B., Estate of, through Roger Warner. Collection of books, miscellaneous works. 302 volumes.

- Waterman, William C., Estate of.** A painting by his brother, Marcus Waterman, entitled "Hayfields" (July).
- West Roxbury Woman's Club.** Six volumes, including The life and letters of Walter H. Page. By B. J. Hendrick. 2 v.; The life of Christ. By Giovanni Papini. For West Roxbury Branch.
- Whiting, Miss Lilian.** 226 manuscript letters written to Miss Whiting, many from Boston authors, to be added to the Kate Field Memorial Collection, established through former gifts of Miss Whiting.
- Dr. Williams' Trustees, London.** Author catalogue of additions to Dr. Williams' Library, in the years 1900-1921. Cambridge. 1923.
- Wilmington Chamber of Commerce, Wilmington, N. C.** History of the 118th Infantry, 6th Brigade, 30th Division, U. S. A. Operations in Belgium and France, 1917-1919.
- Wright, Henry B., New Haven. Yale University.** The Centennial celebration of the founding of the Yale Divinity School, October, 1922. New Haven. 1922.

#### OFFICIALS OF THE LIBRARY.

Director,	Charles F. D. Belden.
Reference Librarian,	Frank H. Chase.
Executive Secretary,	Della Jean Deery.
Auditor,	Adelaide A. Nichols.

---

**Bates Hall Centre Desk, Patent and Newspaper Department:** Pierce E. Buckley, Chief.

Newspaper Division, Frederic Serex, Assistant in Charge.

Patent Division, William J. Ennis, Assistant in Charge.

**Bindery Department:** James W. Kenney, Chief.

**Branch Department:** Edith Guerrier, Supervisor of Branches.

Central Branch Issue Division, Alice V. Stevens, Assistant in Charge.

Branch Binding Division, Marian A. McCarthy, Assistant in Charge.

Shipping Division, Robert F. Dixon, Assistant in Charge.

\* For Branch Librarians, see page 82.

**Catalogue Department:** Samuel A. Chevalier, Chief.

Card Division, T. Francis Brennan, Assistant in Charge.

Editor of Publications, Mary H. Rollins.

Shelf Division, William G. T. Roffe, Assistant in Charge.

**Children's Department:** Alice M. Jordan, Supervisor of Work with Children.

Children's Librarian, Central Library, Mary C. Toy.

**Engineer and Janitor Department:** Henry Niederauer, Chief.

**Information Office:** John H. Reardon, Assistant in Charge.

**Issue Department:** Frank C. Blaisdell, Chief.

**Ordering Department:** Theodosia E. Macurdy, Chief.



Periodical Room: Francis J. Hannigan, Assistant in Charge.

Printing Department: Francis Watts Lee, Chief.

Registration Department: A. Frances Rogers, Chief.

Special Libraries Department: Winthrop H. Chenery, Chief.

Fine Arts Division, Walter Rowlands, Assistant in Charge.

Technical Division, George S. Maynard, Assistant in Charge.

Music Division, Richard G. Appel, Assistant in Charge.

Barton-Ticknor Division, Zoltán Haraszti, Assistant in Charge.

Statistical Department: Horace L. Wheeler, Assistant in Charge.

Stock Room: Timothy J. Mackin, Custodian.

**\*Branch Librarians:**

Allston, Katherine F. Muldoon.

Andrew Square, Elizabeth McShane.

Boylston Station, Edith R. Nickerson.

Brighton, Marian W. Brackett.

Charlestown, Katherine S. Rogan.

City Point, Alice Murphy.

Codman Square, Elizabeth P. Ross.

Dorchester, Edith F. Pendleton.

East Boston, Laura M. Cross.

Faneuil, Gertrude L. Connell.

Fellowes Athenæum, Mary E. Ames.

Hyde Park, Grace L. Murray.

Jamaica Plain, Katie F. Albert.

Jeffries Point, Margaret A. Calnan.

Lower Mills, Nazera Tradd (acting).

Mattapan, Marion C. Kingman (acting).

Mt. Bowdoin, Beatrice M. Flanagan.

Mt. Pleasant, Margaret H. Reid.

Neponset, Ellen C. McShane.

North End, Mary F. Curley (acting).

Orient Heights, Catharine F. Flannery.

Parker Hill, Mary M. Sullivan.

Roslindale, Annie M. Donovan.

Roxbury Crossing, Katrina M. Sather.

South Boston, M. Florence Cufflin.

South End, Margaret A. Sheridan.

Upham's Corner, Mary F. Kelley.

Tyler Street, Theodora B. Scoff.

Warren Street, Beatrice C. Maguire.

West End, Fanny Goldstein.

West Roxbury, Carrie L. Morse.

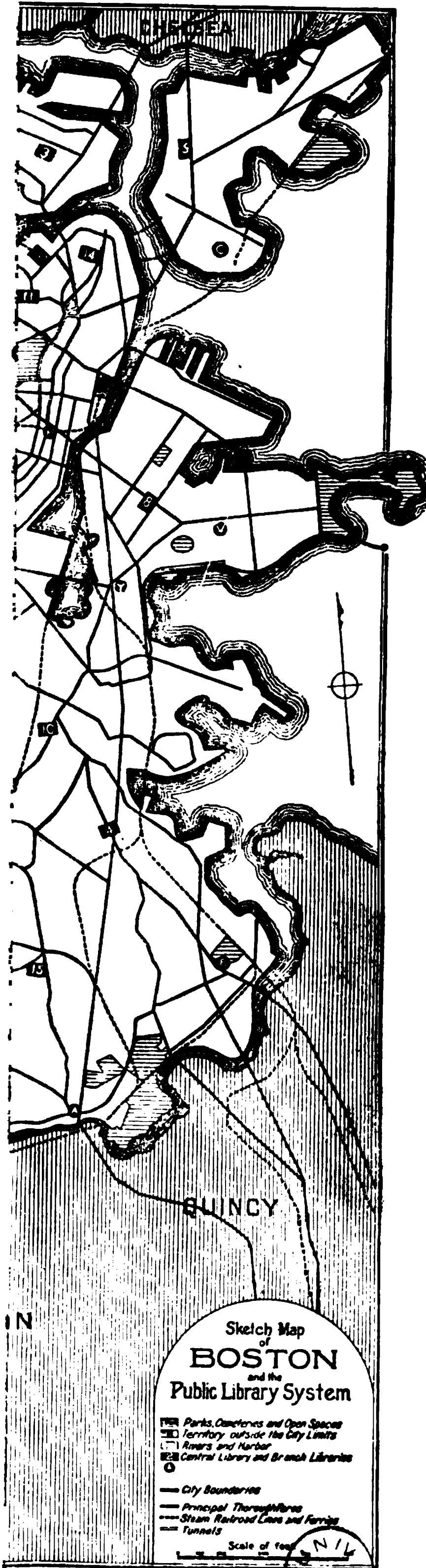
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Sketch Map  
of  
**BOSTON**  
and the  
Public Library System

- Parks, Cemeteries and Open Spaces
- Territory outside the City Limits
- Rivers and Harbor
- Central Library and Branch Libraries
- City Boundaries
- Principal Thoroughfares
- Steam Railroad Lines and Ferries
- Tunnels

Scale of feet

Population (Census of 1920), 748,060.











CENTRAL LIBRARY: THE COURT AT NIGHT.

SEVENTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TRUSTEES

OF THE

PUBLIC LIBRARY

OF THE

CITY OF BOSTON

1924-1925

BOSTON  
PUBLISHED BY THE TRUSTEES  
1925

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON: PRINTING DEPARTMENT.  
MPS: 7.0.25; 2500.

Boston Public Lib.

ex

8-17-1925

**TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**ON FEBRUARY 1, 1925.**

---

**LOUIS E. KIRSTEIN, *President.***

**Term expires April 30, 1929.**

**WILLIAM A. GASTON.**

**Term expires April 30, 1925.**

**ARTHUR T. CONNOLLY.**

**Term expires April 30, 1927.**

**MICHAEL J. MURRAY.**

**Term expires April 30, 1926.**

**GUY W. CURRIER.**

**Term expires April 30, 1928.**

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**DIRECTOR.**

**CHARLES F. D. BELDEN.**

## ORGANIZATION OF THE LIBRARY DEPARTMENT.

The Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, organized in 1852, are now incorporated under the provisions of Chapter 114, of the Acts of 1878, as amended. The Board for 1852 was a preliminary organization; that for 1853 made its first annual report. At first the Board consisted of one alderman and one common-councilman and five citizens at large, until 1867, when a revised ordinance made it consist of one alderman, two common-councilmen and six citizens at large, two of whom retired, unless re-elected, each year, while the members from the City Council were elected yearly. In 1878 the organization of the Board was changed to include one alderman, one councilman, and five citizens at large, as before 1867; and in 1885, by the provisions of the amended city charter, the representation of the City Government upon the Board by an alderman and a councilman was abolished, leaving the Board as at present, consisting of five citizens at large, appointed by the Mayor, for five-year terms, the term of one member expiring each year. The following citizens at large have been members of the Board since its organization in 1852:

ABBOTT, SAMUEL APPLETON BROWNE, A.M., 1879-95.  
APPLETON, THOMAS GOLD, A.M., 1852-56.  
BENTON, JOSIAH HENRY, LL.D., 1894-1917.  
BIGELOW, JOHN PRESCOTT, A.M., 1852-68.  
BOWDITCH, HENRY INGERSOLL, M.D., 1865-67.  
BOWDITCH, HENRY PICKERING, M.D., 1894-1902.  
BOYLE, THOMAS FRANCIS, 1902-12.  
BRAMAN, JARVIS DWIGHT, 1869-72.  
BRETT, JOHN ANDREW, LL.B., 1912-16.  
CARR, SAMUEL, 1895-96, 1908-22.  
CHASE, GEORGE BIGELOW, A.M., 1876-85.  
CLARKE, JAMES FREEMAN, D.D., 1879-88.  
COAKLEY, DANIEL HENRY, 1917-19.  
CONNOLLY, ARTHUR THEODORE, 1916-  
CURRIER, GUY WILBUR, 1922-  
CURTIS, DANIEL SARGENT, A.M., 1873-75.  
DE NORMANDIE, JAMES, D.D., 1895-1908.  
DWIGHT, THOMAS, M.D., 1899-1908.  
EVERETT, EDWARD, LL.D., 1852-64.  
FROTHINGHAM, RICHARD, LL.D., 1875-79.  
GASTON, WILLIAM ALEXANDER, LL.B., 1923-  
GREEN, SAMUEL ABBOTT, M.D., 1868-78.  
GREENOUGH, WILLIAM WHITWELL, 1856-88.  
HAYNES, HENRY WILLIAMSON, A.M., 1880-94.  
HILLIARD, GEORGE STILLMAN, LL.D., 1872-75; 76-77.  
KENNEY, WILLIAM FRANCIS, A.M., 1908-21.  
KIRSTEIN, LOUIS EDWARD, 1919-  
LEWIS, WESTON, 1868-79.  
LEWIS, WINSLOW, M.D., 1867.

LINCOLN, SOLOMON, A.M., 1897–1907.  
 MANN, ALEXANDER, D.D., 1908–23.  
 MORTON, ELLIS WESLEY, 1870–73.  
 MURRAY, MICHAEL JOSEPH, LL.B., 1921–  
 PIERCE, PHINEAS, 1888–94.  
 PRINCE, FREDERICK OCTAVIUS, A.M., 1888–99.  
 PUTNAM, GEORGE, D.D., 1868–77.  
 RICHARDS, WILLIAM REUBEN, A.M., 1889–95.  
 SHURTLEFF, NATHANIEL BRADSTREET, LL.D., 1852–68.  
 THOMAS, BENJAMIN, FRANKLIN, LL.D., 1877–78.  
 TICKNOR, GEORGE, LL.D., 1852–66.  
 WALKER, FRANCIS AMASA, LL.D., 1896.  
 WHIPPLE, EDWIN PERCY, A.M., 1867–70.  
 WHITMORE, WILLIAM HENRY, A.M., 1885–88.  
 WINSOR, JUSTIN, LL.D., 1867–68.

The HON. EDWARD EVERETT was President of the Board from 1852 to 1864; GEORGE TICKNOR, in 1865; WILLIAM W. GREENOUGH, from 1866 to April, 1888; PROF. HENRY W. HAYNES, from May 7, 1888, to May 12, 1888; SAMUEL A. B. ABBOTT, May 12, 1888, to April 30, 1895; HON. F. O. PRINCE, October 8, 1895, to May 8, 1899; SOLOMON LINCOLN, May 12, 1899, to October 15, 1907; REV. JAMES DE NORMANDIE, January 31, 1908, to May 8, 1908; JOSIAH H. BENTON, May 8, 1908, to February 6, 1917; WILLIAM F. KENNEY, February 13, 1917, to May 7, 1920; REV. ALEXANDER MANN, May 7, 1920, to January 22, 1923; MSGR. ARTHUR T. CONNOLLY, April 13, 1923, to June 13, 1924; LOUIS E. KIRSTEIN, since June 13, 1924.

## LIBRARIANS.

(From 1858 to 1877, the chief executive officer was called Superintendent; since 1923, Director.)

CAPEN, EDWARD, *Librarian*, May 13, 1852 – December 16, 1874.  
 JEWETT, CHARLES C., *Superintendent*, 1858 – January 9, 1868.  
 WINSOR, JUSTIN, LL.D., *Superintendent*, February 25, 1868 – September 30, 1877.  
 GREEN, SAMUEL A., M.D., *Trustee, Acting Librarian*, October 1, 1877 – September 30, 1878.  
 CHAMBERLAIN, MELLEN, LL.D., *Librarian*, October 1, 1878 – September 30, 1890.  
 DWIGHT, THEODORE F., *Librarian*, April 13, 1892 – April 30, 1894.  
 PUTNAM, HERBERT, LL.D., *Librarian*, February 11, 1895 – April 30, 1899.  
 WHITNEY, JAMES L., A.M., *Acting Librarian*, March 31, 1899 – December 21, 1899; *Librarian*, December 22, 1899 – January 31, 1903.  
 WADLIN, HORACE G., LITT.D., *Librarian*, February 1, 1903 – March 15, 1917; *Acting Librarian*, March 15, 1917 – June 15, 1917.  
 BELDEN, CHARLES F. D., LL.B., *Director*, since March 15, 1917.

## LIBRARY SYSTEM, FEBRUARY 1, 1925.

DEPARTMENTS.	OPENED.
†Central Library, Copley Square . . . . .	May 2, 1854
†East Boston Branch, 276-282 Meridian St. . . . .	Jan. 28, 1871
§South Boston Branch, 372 Broadway . . . . .	May 1, 1872
Fellowes Athenaeum Branch, 46 Millmont St. . . . .	July 16, 1873
†Charlestown Branch, Monument Square . . . . .	Jan. 5, 1874
†Brighton Branch, Academy Hill Road . . . . .	Jan. 5, 1874
‡Dorchester Branch, Arcadia, cor. Adams St. . . . .	Jan. 25, 1875
‡Lower Mills Branch, Washington, cor. Richmond St. . . . .	*June 7, 1875
‡South End Branch, Shawmut Ave. and West Brookline St. . . . .	Aug., 1877
†Jamaica Plain Branch, Sedgwick, cor. South St. . . . .	Sept., 1877
‡Roslindale Branch, Washington, cor. Ashland St. . . . .	*Dec. 3, 1878
†West Roxbury Branch, Centre, near Mt. Vernon St. . . . .	*Jan. 6, 1880
§Mattapan Branch, 7 Babson St. . . . .	*Dec. 27, 1881
†North End Branch, 3a North Bennet St. . . . .	*Oct., 1882
§Neponset Branch, 362 Neponset Ave. . . . .	*Jan. 1, 1883
§Mt. Bowdoin Branch, Washington, cor. Eldon St. . . . .	*Nov. 1, 1886
§Allston Branch, 138 Brighton Ave. . . . .	*Mar. 11, 1889
‡Codman Square Branch, Washington, cor. Norfolk St. . . . .	*Nov. 12, 1890
‡Mt. Pleasant Branch, Vine, cor. Dudley St. . . . .	*Apr. 29, 1892
‡Tyler Street Branch, Tyler, cor. Oak St. . . . .	*Jan. 16, 1896
†West End Branch, Cambridge, cor. Lynde St. . . . .	Feb. 1, 1896
‡Uphams Corner Branch, Columbia Rd., cor. Bird St. . . . .	*Mar. 16, 1896
§Warren Street Branch, 392 Warren St. . . . .	*May 1, 1896
§Roxbury Crossing Branch, 208 Ruggles St. . . . .	*Jan. 18, 1897
§Boylston Station Branch, The Lamartine, Depot Square . . . . .	*Nov. 1, 1897
§Orient Heights Branch, 1030 Bennington St. . . . .	*June 25, 1901
‡City Point Branch, Municipal Bldg., Broadway . . . . .	*July 18, 1906
§Parker Hill Branch, 1518 Tremont St. . . . .	*July 15, 1907
†Hyde Park Branch, Harvard Ave., cor. Winthrop St. . . . .	Jan. 1, 1912
†Faneuil Branch, 100 Brooks St. . . . .	*Mar. 4, 1914
§Andrew Square Branch, 396 Dorchester St. . . . .	*Mar. 5, 1914
§Jeffries Point Branch, 195 Webster St. . . . .	*Oct. 15, 1921

|| In the case of the Central Library and some of the branches the opening was in a different location from that now occupied. \* As a delivery station. † In building owned by City, and exclusively devoted to library uses. ‡ In City building, in part devoted to other municipal uses. § Occupies rented rooms. || The lessee of the Fellowes Athenaeum, a private library association.

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**LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS.**

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<b>Central Library: The Court at Night . . . . .</b>	<b>Frontispiece</b>
<b>Map of the Library System . . . . .</b>	<b>At the end</b>





To HIS HONOR JAMES M. CURLEY,  
*Mayor of the City of Boston.*

The Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston present the following reports of its condition and affairs for the year ending January 31, 1925, being the seventy-third annual report.

ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD.

Mr. Louis E. Kirstein, whose term as a Trustee expired on April 30, 1924, was re-appointed for a term ending April 30, 1929. The Board organized at the annual meeting on June 13, 1924, by the election of Mr. Louis E. Kirstein as President, Judge Michael J. Murray, Vice-President, and Miss Della Jean Deery, Clerk.

RECEIPTS OF THE LIBRARY.

The receipts which may be expended by the Trustees for the maintenance of the Library consist of the annual appropriation by the Mayor and City Council, and the income from Trust Funds given to the institution and invested by the City Treasurer. During the past year these receipts were:

Annual appropriation . . . . .	\$828,567.00
Special appropriation (Annex balance) . . . . .	15,803.50
Income from Trust Funds . . . . .	24,852.54
Unexpended balance of Trust Funds income of previous year . . . . .	46,615.09
	<hr/>
	\$915,838.13

Receipts which are accounted for and paid into the City Treasury for general municipal purposes, during the past year have been as follows:

From fines . . . . .	\$13,437.15
From sales of catalogues, etc. . . . .	71.53
From commissions on telephone stations . . . . .	415.68
From sale of waste paper . . . . .	554.76
From payments for lost books . . . . .	1,019.75
Interest on bank deposits . . . . .	17.67
	<hr/>
Total . . . . .	\$15,516.54

## ESTIMATES FOR 1925.

The estimates for the maintenance of the Library for the year ending December 31, 1925 (11 months) in segregated budget form, are as follows:

A — Personal service . . . . .	\$609,497.00
B — Service other than personal . . . . .	109,277.00
C — Equipment . . . . .	124,260.00
D — Supplies . . . . .	31,328.00
E — Materials . . . . .	20,370.00
F — Special items . . . . .	792.00
Total . . . . .	<u>\$895,524.00</u>

## ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY.

During the year there have been added to the Central Library and branches 80,855 volumes as against 75,534 in 1923. Of these 66,483 were acquired by purchase and 13,362 by gift, exchanges, etc. The total expenditure for books, periodicals, newspapers, and other library material from City appropriation and Trust Funds income, was \$123,930.56. The total number of volumes in the Central Library and branches is 1,388,896.

## CIRCULATION.

The total number of books issued for home use during the year was 3,132,194, as against 2,922,861 in 1923.

This year was the first in the history of the institution when the three million mark in home circulation has been exceeded. As the Director has pointed out, the number would soon be doubled if there were more books, more branches and the required service to meet the fast-growing demands made on the Library Department.

## GIFTS AND BEQUESTS.

The Trustees are glad to report two important bequests during the year 1924: on August 8, a check for \$10,000 from the estate of David P. Kimball, funded as the "David P. Kimball Fund," the income to be applied to the purchase of books, in ac-

cordance with the terms of the bequest; and on November 28, a check for \$5,000 from the estate of Isabella Stewart Gardner, funded as the "Isabella Stewart Gardner Fund," the income to be applied to the purchase of material for the Allen A. Brown Music Library as a memorial to B. J. Lang, in accordance with the terms of the bequest.

In March the Trustees accepted, subject to the approval of the Art Commission, a bronze memorial tablet to those members of the Library staff who served in the late war, presented through the Boston Public Library Employees' Benefit Association, by the employees of the Library. The tablet was placed in position in the court of the Library building and unveiled with appropriate ceremonies on November 11, 1924.

Many important gifts of books and other library material have been received during the year. A detailed statement of these will be found in the Director's report.

#### TRUST FUNDS.

The Trustees welcome bequests of money, and hope that generous testators may remember the Library. It is from such sources only that they can make purchases of rare works, which give value and rank to a great educational institution, but for which they hesitate to expend public funds appropriated for more popular and pressing use.

As a matter of interest to the public, the Board has pleasure in listing herewith the present trust funds of the Library, with explanatory notes.

**Artz Fund.**— Donation from MISS VICTORINE THOMAS ARTZ, of Chicago; the income of this sum to be employed in the purchase of valuable, rare editions of the writings, either in verse or prose, of American and foreign authors. These books are to be known as the "Longfellow Memorial Collection." Received in 1896.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond* . . . \$10,000.00

**Bates Fund** — Donation made by JOSHUA BATES, of London, in March, 1853.

"The income only of this fund is to be each and every year expended in the purchase of such books of permanent value and authority as

may be found most needful and most useful." Payable to the Mayor of the city for the time being.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . \$50,000.00*

Bigelow Fund — Donation made by JOHN P. BIGELOW in August, 1850, when Mayor of the city.

The income from this fund is to be appropriated for the purchase of books for the increase of the library.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . \$1,000.00*

Robert Charles Billings Fund — Bequest of ROBERT CHARLES BILLINGS.

"The sum to constitute a permanent fund for said library, to be called the Robert Charles Billings Fund, the income only to be used for the purposes of the purchase of books for said library." Received in 1903.

*Invested in City of Boston Three and one-half per cent Bonds . . . . . \$100,000.00*

Bowditch Fund — Bequest of J. INGERSOLL BOWDITCH. Received in 1890.

The whole income in each and every year to be expended in the purchase of books of permanent value and authority in mathematics and astronomy.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond . . . . . \$10,000.00*

Bradlee Fund — Bequest of the REV. CALEB DAVIS BRADLEE to the Boston Public Library. Received in 1897.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-half per cent Bond . . . . . \$1,000.00*

Joseph H. Center Fund — Bequest of JOSEPH H. CENTER, the income thereof to be at all times applied to the purchase of books and other additions to the library. Received in 1905.

*Invested in*  
*City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . . . \$1,000.00*  
*City of Boston Three and one half per cent Bonds . . . . . 38,500.00*  
*Cash in City Treasury, January 31, 1924 . . . . . 43.14*

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**\$39,543.14**

Children's Fund — Bequest of JOSIAH H. BENTON of \$100,000, to be held as "The Children's Fund," and the income applied to the purchase of books for the use of the young, to be applied for those purposes only in years when the city appropriates for the maintenance of the Boston Public Library at least three per cent of the amount available for department expenses from taxes and income in said city.

In any year when the city does not thus appropriate at least three per cent of the amount available for department expenses from taxes and income in said City, the income given in said will for the purchase of books shall be paid to the Rector of Trinity Church in the City of Boston to be by him dispensed in relieving the necessities of the poor.

*Invested in*

City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond	\$15,000.00
City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . . .	62,000.00
Commonwealth of Massachusetts Three and one-half per cent Bond . . . . .	20,000.00
Commonwealth of Massachusetts Four per cent Bond . . . . .	6,000.00
Cash, January 31, 1924 . . . . .	117.74
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	\$103,117.74

Clement Fund — Bequest of the late FRANK CLEMENT, of Newton, to be known as the "Frank Clement Fund," the income to be applied to the purchase of books. Received in 1915.

*Invested in* City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . . . \$2,000.00

Henry Sargent Codman Memorial Fund — This is a contribution from the friends of HENRY SARGENT CODMAN, to be used to perpetuate the memory of Mr. Codman by the purchase of books upon landscape gardening.

It is the desire of the subscribers that a special book plate shall be inserted in each one of the volumes purchased, identifying it as part of their memorial collection. Received in 1898.

<i>Invested in</i> City of Boston Three and one half per cent Bond . . . . .	\$2,800.00
Cash in Treasury, January 31, 1924 . . . . .	54.41
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	\$2,854.41

Cutter Fund — Bequest of ABRAM E. CUTTER of four thousand dollars and his library of books, the income of the fund to be expended for the purchase of books, and for binding. Received in 1901.

*Invested in*

City of Boston Three per cent Bond . . . . .	\$4,000.00
City of Boston Four and one half per cent Bond . . . . .	100.00
Cash in Treasury, January 31, 1924 . . . . .	40.00
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	\$4,140.00

Elizabeth Fund — Bequest of SARAH A. MATCHETT, late of Brookline, who died October 6, 1910, the object of which is stated in the fol-

lowing extract from her will:

"I give and bequeath to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, twenty-five thousand dollars, to be called the Elizabeth fund, to be received, held and securely invested, and only the net income therefrom expended every year in the purchase of such books of permanent value and authority as may be most useful in said Library."

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . \$25,000.00*

Daniel Sharp Ford Fund — A bequest of DANIEL SHARP FORD to the Public Library of the City of Boston. Received in 1900.

*Invested in City of Boston Three per cent Bond . . . \$6,000.00*

Franklin Club Fund — Donation made in June, 1863, by a literary association of young men in Boston, who, at the dissolution of the association, authorized its trustees, Thomas Minns, John J. French and J. Franklin Reed, to dispose of the funds on hand in such manner as to them should seem judicious. They elected to bestow it on the Public Library, attaching to it the following conditions: "In trust, that the income, but the income only, shall, from year by year, be expended in the purchase of books of permanent value, for the use of the free Public Library of the city, and as far as practicable of such a character as to be of special interest to young men." The trustees expressed a preference for books relative to government and political economy.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one quarter  
per cent Bond . . . . . \$1,000.00*

Isabella Stewart Gardner Fund — Bequest of ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER.

"To the Trustees of the Boston Public Library, for the Brown Musical Library, for a memorial to B. J. Lang." Received in 1924.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . . . \$5,000.00*

Green Fund — Donations of DR. SAMUEL A. GREEN of \$2,000, the income of which is to be expended for the purchase of books relating to American history. Received in 1878 and 1884.

*Invested in*  
City of Boston Five per cent Bond . . . . . \$ 500.00  
City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . . . 1,000.00  
City of Boston Three per cent Bond . . . . . 500.00

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**\$2,000.00**

Charlotte Harris Fund — Bequest of CHARLOTTE HARRIS, late of Boston, the object of which is stated in the following extract from her will: "I give to the Charlestown Public Library \$10,000, to be

invested of interest, which interest is to be applied to the purchase of books published before 1850. I also give to said Public Library my own private library and the portrait of my grandfather, Richard Devens." Bequests accepted by City Council, July 31, 1877.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one quarter  
per cent Bond . . . . . \$10,000.00*

Thomas B. Harris Fund — Bequest of THOMAS B. HARRIS, late of Charlestown, for the benefit of the Charlestown Public Library. Received in 1884.

*Invested in City of Boston Five per cent Bond . . . \$1,000.00*

Hyde Fund — Bequest of FRANKLIN P. HYDE of Boston, to be known as the "Franklin P. Hyde Fund," the income to be applied to the purchase of books and other library material. Received in 1915.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . \$3,600.00*  
*Cash, January 31, 1924 . . . . . 32.40*

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*\$3,632.40*

David P. Kimball Fund — Bequest of DAVID P. KIMBALL.

"I give to the Public Library of the City of Boston, the income to be used for the purchase of books, \$10,000." Received in 1924.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . . . \$10,000.00*

Arthur Mason Knapp Fund — Extract from the will of KATHERINE KNAPP: "To the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), to be known as the Arthur Mason Knapp Fund, of which the income only shall be used for the purchase of books for said library. And I hereby request that such books be designated with an appropriate label or inscription, bearing the name of the Fund." Received in 1914.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . \$10,000.00*

Abbott Lawrence Fund — Bequest of ABBOTT LAWRENCE, of Boston. Received in 1860. The interest on this fund is to be exclusively appropriated for the purchase of books for the said library having a permanent value.

*Invested in City of Boston Three and one half per  
cent Bond . . . . . \$10,000.00*

Edward Lawrence Fund — Bequest of EDWARD LAWRENCE, of Charlestown. Received in 1886. The following clause from his will explains its purpose:

"To hold and apply the income and so much of the principal as they may choose, to the purchase of special books of reference to be kept and used only at the Charlestown branch of said Public Library."

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . \$500.00*



**Mrs. John A. Lewis Fund** — Bequest of ELIZABETH LEWIS, to be known as the Mrs. John A. Lewis Fund: "I give and bequeath to the Boston Public Library the sum of \$5,000 as a fund, the income of which is to be used for the purchase of such old and rare books as shall be fitly selected to augment the collection known as the John A. Lewis Library." Received in 1903.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . . .* \$5,000.00

**Charles Greely Loring Memorial Fund** — Donation from the family of CHARLES GREELY LORING, the income of which is to be expended for the purchase of books for the West End Branch. Received in 1896.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . . .* \$500.00

**Charles Mead Fund** — Bequest of CHARLES MEAD, to constitute the Charles Mead Public Library Trust Fund for the promotion of the objects of the Public Library in such manner as the government of said library shall deem best, and so far as the government shall deem consistent with the objects of the library to be used for the benefit of the South Boston Branch Library. Received in 1896.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one half per cent Bond . . . . .* \$2,500.00

**The Oakland Hall Trust Fund** — By an interlocutory decree of the Probate Court for the County of Suffolk, the amount of \$11,781.44 was received, the same being one-half of the net amount received from the disposition of certain property held by the Trustees, under an indenture between Amor Hollingsworth, Sumner A. Burt and Amor L. Hollingsworth, all of Milton, Mass., and John H. McKendry, of Boston, Mass., entered into the sixth day of August, 1870. The above amount was accepted by the City, January 2, 1924, and the Trustees of the Public Library voted to invest the same under the name of "The Oakland Hall Trust Fund," the income to be applied to the purchase of books and other library material for the Mattapan Branch.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . . . . .* \$11,000.00  
*Cash, January 31, 1924 . . . . .* 781.44

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\$11,781.44

**John Boyle O'Reilly Fund** — Donation received from the PAPYRUS CLUB to establish a fund in memory of John Boyle O'Reilly, late member of said club, the income of said fund to be devoted to the purchase of books for the Boston Public Library. Received in 1897.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . . .* \$1,000.00

**Phillips Fund** — Donation made by JONATHAN PHILLIPS, of Boston, in April, 1853.

The interest of this fund is to be used exclusively for the purchase of books for said library.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond* . . . \$10,000.00

Also a bequest by the same gentleman in his will dated September 20, 1849.

The interest on which is to be annually devoted to the maintenance of a free Public Library.

*Invested in City of Boston Three and one half per cent Bond* . . . . . \$20,000.00

Both of these items are payable to the Mayor of the city for the time being.

**Pierce Fund** — Donation made by HENRY L. PIERCE, Mayor of the city, November 29, 1873, and accepted by the City Council, December 27, 1873.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond* . . . \$5,000.00

**Sarah E. Pratt Fund** — Bequest from SARAH E. PRATT, late of Boston under the 14th clause of her will for the benefit of the Dorchester Branch, \$500.00.

By vote of the trustees the bequest to be funded as the Sarah E. Pratt Fund, the income to be applied to the purchase of books for the Dorchester Branch. Received in January, 1922.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond* . . . \$1,400.00

Cash in City Treasury, January 31, 1924 . . . 64.30

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\$1,464.30

**Scholfield Fund** — Bequest of ARTHUR SCHOLFIELD, who died in New York, January 17, 1883. The interest to be paid to certain heirs during their lives, and then to be used for the purchase of books of permanent value. The last heir, Joseph Scholfield, died November 18, 1889, and by his will bequeathed to the City of Boston the sum of \$11,766.67, which represents the income of said fund received by him up to the time of his death, to which was added \$33.33 accrued interest on deposit up to the time of investment, to be added to the fund given by his brother.

*Invested in*

City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . . . \$32,800.00

City of Boston Four and one quarter per cent Bond . . . 12,000.00

City of Boston Four and one half per cent Bonds . . . 6,000.00

City of Boston Five per cent Bonds . . . . . 11,000.00

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\$61,800.00

**Sewall Fund** — Extract from the will of **RICHARD BLACK SEWALL**:

*"Tenth.*— I bequeath the following pecuniary legacies clear of legacy tax, namely, To the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston \$25,000 (twenty-five thousand dollars) to be added to their funds and the income to be used for the purchase of books."  
Received in 1918.

*Invested in* City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond . . . . . \$25,000.00

**Skinner Fund** — Extract from the will of **FRANCIS SKINNER**:

*"Eleventh.*— All my books and library I give and bequeath to my son to be enjoyed by him during his life and after his death to be distributed as he shall appoint among such public libraries as he shall judge fit, and in case he makes no such appointment then to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston.

*"Sixteenth.*— All the rest and residue of my said property of whatever kind, I give and bequeath to Augustus P. Loring and J. Lewis Stackpole in trust to pay the net income to my son Francis Skinner, Jr., during his life, or to apply the same to his maintenance and support, or the maintenance and support of any issue of his, as they shall think best during his life; and at his death to apply the income to the maintenance and support of his issue until his youngest child shall reach the age of 21 years and then to distribute said property among said issue, the issue of a deceased child to take the share a parent would have taken if living.

*"If there shall be no issue surviving at the time of my son's death, then to turn the said property into cash and to divide it equally among the following legatees: The Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, the Museum of Fine Arts of Boston, Massachusetts, the Massachusetts General Hospital, the Medical School of Harvard University, and the Free Hospital for Women, Brookline, Massachusetts."*

*Invested in*  
City of Boston Three and one-half per cent Bond \$40,000.00  
City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . . . . . 10,250.00  
City of Boston Four and one half per cent Bonds 200.00  
16 shares Worcester Street Railway Company . 1,280.00  
Cash, January 31, 1924 . . . . . 2.14  

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\$51,732.14

**South Boston Branch Library Trust Fund** — Donation of a citizen of South Boston, the income of which is to be expended for the benefit of the South Boston Branch Library. Received in 1879.

*Invested in* City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond . . . . . \$100.00

**Mary Elizabeth Stewart Fund — Bequest of MARY ELIZABETH STEWART of \$3,500 to the Trustees of the Boston Public Library. The Trustees voted under date of June 29, 1923, that the income be applied to the purchase of books and other library material.**

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . . . . . \$3,500.00*

**Patrick F. Sullivan Bequest — Extract from will: "I give and bequeath to the Trustees of the Boston Public Library the sum of five thousand dollars, the principal or income of said sum to be expended by them for the purchase of Catholic standard books, said books to be approved by the Archbishop of the diocese of Boston, Mass., or by the President of the Trustees of Boston College, in Boston, Mass." Received in 1908.**

**This bequest, together with interest amounting to \$339.61, has been expended for books.**

**Ticknor Bequest — By the will of GEORGE TICKNOR, of Boston, he gave to the City of Boston, on the death of his wife, all his books and manuscripts in the Spanish and Portuguese languages, about four thousand volumes, and also the sum of four thousand dollars. After the receipt of said sums the city is required to spend not less than one thousand dollars in every five years during the twenty-five years next succeeding (i.e., the income of four thousand dollars, at the rate of five per cent per annum) in the purchase of books in the Spanish and Portuguese languages and literature. At the end of twenty-five years the income of said sum to be expended annually in the purchase of books of permanent value, either in the Spanish or Portuguese languages, or in such other languages as may be deemed expedient by those having charge of the library. The books bequeathed or purchased are always to be freely accessible for reference or study, but are not to be loaned for use outside of the library building. If these bequests are not accepted by the city, and the trusts and conditions faithfully executed, the books, manuscripts and money are to be given to the President and Fellows of Harvard College. In order that the city might receive the immediate benefit of this contribution, Anna Ticknor, widow of the donor, relinquished her right to retain during her life the books and manuscripts, and placed them under the control of the city, the City Council having previously accepted the bequests in accordance with the terms and conditions of said will, and the Trustees of the Public Library received said bequests on behalf of the city, and made suitable arrangements for the care and custody of the books and manuscripts.**

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-half per cent Bonds . . . . . \$4,000.00*

**William C. Todd Newspaper Fund** — Donation by **WILLIAM C. TODD**, accepted by order of the City Council, approved October 30, 1897, the income to be at least two thousand dollars a year, to be expended by the Library Trustees for newspapers of this and other countries.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . . .* \$50,000.00

**Townsend Fund** — Donation from **William Minot** and **William Minot, Jr.**, executors of the will of **MARY P. TOWNSEND**, of Boston, at whose disposal she left a certain portion of her estate in trust for such charitable and public institutions as they might think meritorious. Said executors accordingly selected the Public Library of the City of Boston as one of such institutions, and attached the following conditions to the legacy: "The income only shall, in each and every year, be expended in the purchase of books for the use of the library; each of which books shall have been published in some one edition at least five years at the time it may be so purchased." Received in 1879.

*Invested in City of Boston Three and one-half per cent Bond . . . . .* \$4,000.00

**Treadwell Fund** — By the will of the late **DANIEL TREADWELL**, of Cambridge, late Rumford Professor in Harvard College, who died February 27, 1872, he left the residue of his estate, after payment of debts, legacies, etc., in trust to his executors, to hold during the life of his wife for her benefit, and after her decease to divide the residue then remaining in the hands of the Trustees, as therein provided, and convey one-fifth part thereof to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston.

By order of the City Council, approved May 17, 1872, said bequest was accepted and the Trustees of the Public Library authorized to receive the same and invest it in the City of Boston Bonds, income of which is to be expended by said Trustees in such manner as they may deem for the best interests of the library.

*Invested in*

City of Boston Four and one-half per cent Bond . . . . .	\$1,000.00
City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bonds . . . . .	3,100.00
City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . . . . .	9,850.00
Cash in City Treasury, January 31, 1924 . . . . .	37.69

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\$13,987.69

**Tufts Fund** — Bequest of **NATHAN A. TUFTS**, of Charlestown, to be known as the "Nathan A. Tufts Fund," the income to be applied

at all times to the purchase of books and other additions to the library to be placed in the Charlestown Branch. Received in 1906.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Three and one-half per</i>	
cent Bonds . . . . .	\$10,100.00
Cash in City Treasury, January 31, 1924 . . . . .	31.77
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	\$10,131.77

Twentieth Regiment Memorial Fund — Donation on account of the TWENTIETH REGIMENT MEMORIAL FUND, the income to be used for the purchase of books of a military and patriotic character, to be placed in the alcove appropriated as a memorial to the Twentieth Regiment. Received in 1897.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter per</i>	
cent Bond . . . . .	\$5,000.00

Wales Fund — Extract from the will of GEORGE C. WALES:

"After the foregoing bequests I direct that the sum of five thousand dollars be paid to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, the same to be held, managed and invested by them, so as to produce an income, and the said income to be applied to the purchase of such books for said Library as they may deem best." Received in 1918.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter per</i>	
cent Bond . . . . .	\$5,000.00

Mehitable C. C. Wilson Fund — Bequest of MEHITABLE C. C. WILSON, the income to be expended for the purchase of books for the Boston Public Library.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . . . . .</i>	\$1,000.00
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Whitney Funds — Bequests of JAMES LYMAN WHITNEY, who died September 25, 1910.

Alice Lincoln Whitney Fund — The twelfth clause of his will directed that: One-tenth of said remaining income of the principal fund, I direct to be paid to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, to be held and accumulated by said Trustees and permanently invested and re-invested. The first five thousand dollars of income so accumulated, including the income thereon arising during the period of accumulation, I request to be funded in the name of my sister, Alice Lincoln Whitney, and the income of said fund after its accumulation or so much of said income as may be required, to be paid to such employees of the said Library, who are sick and in need of help, as the Trustees may in their discretion deem most

worthy (there are often such cases). Any amount of income from said accumulated fund not needed for the purpose just mentioned shall be used for the purchase of books and manuscripts.

*Invested in*

City of Boston Five per cent Bond . . . . .	\$ 500.00
City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bonds . . . . .	1,000.00
City of Boston Four Per cent Bonds . . . . .	3,500.00

James Lyman Whitney Fund — The Alice Lincoln Whitney Fund having been established, all amounts of income of the principal fund paid to said Trustees after the accumulation of said fund of five thousand dollars shall be held as the James Lyman Whitney Fund, and invested and reinvested and the income used in equal shares, one share for the purchase of rare and expensive books, and one share for the purchase and care of manuscripts; one half at least of the share devoted to manuscripts to be expended for their cataloguing and proper care.

*Invested in*

City of Boston Four and one-half per cent Bonds . . . . .	\$1,200.00
City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bonds . . . . .	2,000.00
City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . . . . .	4,700.00
Cash in City Treasury, January 31, 1924 . . . . .	745.84
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	\$8,645.84

In addition to the above Mr. Whitney created a trust, directing that of the net income seven hundred dollars a year be paid to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, to be expended on bibliographic work for the benefit of the Library.

Donations — Besides the preceding, the following donations have been made to the Public Library, and the amounts have been appropriated for the purchase of books, according to the intention of the donors, viz.:

J. Ingersoll Bowditch . . . . .	\$6,800.00
Samuel Appleton, late of Boston . . . . .	1,000.00
Sally Inman Kast Shepard . . . . .	1,000.00
James Brown, late of Cambridge . . . . .	500.00
Andrew Carnegie . . . . .	980.75
Nathaniel I. Bowditch . . . . .	200.00
James Nightingale . . . . .	100.00
Dorchester and Milton Circulating Library, for the benefit of the Dorchester Branch Library . . . . .	335.13
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	\$10,915.88

## RECAPITULATION OF PUBLIC LIBRARY TRUST FUNDS.

Artz Fund . . . . .	\$ 10,000.00
Bates Fund . . . . .	50,000.00
Bigelow Fund . . . . .	1,000.00
Robert Charles Billings Fund . . . . .	100,000.00
Bowditch Fund . . . . .	10,000.00
Bradlee Fund . . . . .	1,000.00
Joseph H. Center Fund . . . . .	39,543.14
Children's Fund . . . . .	103,117.74
Clement Fund . . . . .	2,000.00
Henry Sargent Codman Memorial Fund . . . . .	2,854.41
Cutter Fund . . . . .	4,140.00
Elizabeth Fund . . . . .	25,000.00
Daniel Sharp Ford Fund . . . . .	6,000.00
Franklin Club Fund . . . . .	1,000.00
Isabella Stewart Gardner Fund . . . . .	5,000.00
Green Fund . . . . .	2,000.00
Charlotte Harris Fund . . . . .	10,000.00
Thomas B. Harris Fund . . . . .	1,000.00
Hyde Fund . . . . .	3,632.40
David P. Kimball Fund . . . . .	10,000.00
Arthur Mason Knapp Fund . . . . .	10,000.00
Abbott Lawrence Fund . . . . .	10,000.00
Edward Lawrence Fund . . . . .	500.00
Mrs. John A. Lewis Fund . . . . .	5,000.00
Charles Greely Loring Memorial Fund . . . . .	500.00
Charles Mead Fund . . . . .	2,500.00
The Oakland Hall Trust Fund . . . . .	11,781.44
John Boyle O'Reilly Fund . . . . .	1,000.00
Phillips Funds . . . . .	30,000.00
Pierce Fund . . . . .	5,000.00
Sarah E. Pratt Fund . . . . .	1,464.30
Scholfield Fund . . . . .	61,800.00
Sewall Fund . . . . .	25,000.00
Skinner Fund . . . . .	51,732.14
South Boston Branch Library Trust Fund . . . . .	100.00
Mary Elizabeth Stewart Fund . . . . .	3,500.00
Ticknor Fund . . . . .	4,000.00
William C. Todd Newspaper Fund . . . . .	50,000.00
Townsend Fund . . . . .	4,000.00
Treadwell Fund . . . . .	13,987.69
Nathan A. Tufts Fund . . . . .	10,131.77
Twentieth Regiment Memorial Fund . . . . .	5,000.00
Wales Fund . . . . .	5,000.00
Mehitable C. C. Wilson Fund . . . . .	1,000.00
Alice Lincoln Whitney Fund . . . . .	5,000.00
James Lyman Whitney Fund . . . . .	8,645.84
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	\$713,930.87

## NEEDS.

The Trustees wish to call special attention to the report of the Director, which contains many points of general interest about the needs and conditions of the Library. From this report it



will be clearly seen that a larger income must be provided for necessary repairs and upkeep. Attention has been repeatedly called to the pressing physical needs of the Library. It is false economy to postpone from year to year the repairs and improvements which are so urgently required.

Much has been done and still more can be done by the Public Library of the City of Boston with its present collections and its incomplete personnel. But if it is to keep in the front rank of educational institutions and serve as it should the demands of an eager general public it must do several things. It must first set its house in order — must make suitable for occupancy and service its main building and branches and must have an income sufficient for keeping them in proper condition. Even more important, however, is the necessity of rounding out and constantly adding to its great collections for the use of scholars and of extending its service to the general reading public through the acquisition of a larger number of the more popular books, especially books other than fiction, for both the branches and the Central Library.

#### THE WEST END BRANCH.

In September the Trustees received notice from the Board of Street Commissioners of the taking of 3,119 square feet of land from the West End Branch Library property on Cambridge Street, for highway purposes, with an award of \$24,500. In January, 1925, under a ruling of the Law Department, this award was cancelled and rescinded, inasmuch as the title of the property was in the City of Boston.

#### FINES FOR YOUNGER BORROWERS.

On January 9, 1925, the Director reported that the rule of the Trustees of November 23, 1903, authorizing the remittance at the end of six months of fines charged against borrowers under 16 years of age, was unsatisfactory in many ways, and recommended that the practice be discontinued and that fines for such borrowers be reduced to one cent for each day beyond the time for which the book was lent, and payment of the same required before the borrowing privileges be restored.

The recommendation was approved and adopted, to take effect February 1, 1925, or as soon thereafter as convenient.

#### EXAMINING COMMITTEE.

The Trustees gratefully acknowledge the assistance rendered by the Examining Committee of the year. It appears that the Library can always rely on the generous and cheerful assistance of the best citizens whenever they are asked to render it service. The recommendations of the Committee deserve and have received careful attention. The Committee for 1924-25, consisted of:

Mr. Gordon Abbott.	Mr. Jacob J. Kaplan.
Rev. William J. Barry.	Mr. John C. Kiley.
John T. Bottomley, M.D.	Mr. Malcolm Lang.
Mrs. I. Tucker Burr.	Hon. Frank Leveroni.
Miss Ida M. Cannon.	Mrs. Joseph T. Mponey.
Mr. Hollis French.	Mrs. Fred L. Pigeon.
Mr. John I. Fitzgerald.	Miss Mary Ranney.
Mr. Henry Lewis Johnson.	Rev. Lyman V. Rutledge.
Miss Sara H. Stites.	

The helpful and suggestive report of the Committee is appended to the report of the Trustees.

#### CONCLUSION.

The Trustees feel that the service of the Library has been well administered during the year. This has been in a large degree due to the efficient and loyal service of the Director and his staff.

Each year since the adoption of the Boston Retirement Act, the Library has been deprived of a number of employees. To these employees of long and faithful service the Library owes much, and the Trustees cannot conclude their report without an expression of their appreciation of such service.

LOUIS E. KIRSTEIN,  
MICHAEL J. MURRAY,  
WILLIAM A. GASTON,  
ARTHUR T. CONNOLLY,  
GUY W. CURRIER.

## BALANCE SHEET, RECEIPTS AND

Dr.

## CENTRAL LIBRARY AND BRANCHES:

## To expenditures for

Permanent employees (exclusive of Printing and Binding Departments) . . . . .	\$391,203.07
Temporary employees . . . . .	140,965.51

\$532,168.58

## Service other than personal

Contract work (outside) . . . . .	296.91
Postage . . . . .	1,354.24
Transportation of persons . . . . .	336.01
Cartage and freight . . . . .	12,121.58
Light and power . . . . .	14,031.90
Rent, taxes and water . . . . .	16,223.30
Premium on surety bonds . . . . .	17.50
Communication . . . . .	1,534.90
Cleaning, towels, etc. . . . .	815.59
Removal of snow . . . . .	494.05
Examinations . . . . .	126.00
Expert and architect . . . . .	645.60
Fees . . . . .	2.50
Boiler inspection . . . . .	44.00
General plant repairs . . . . .	10,661.72

58,705.80

## To expenditure for equipment

Furniture and fixtures . . . . .	2,687.90
Office . . . . .	989.68
Motorless vehicles . . . . .	65.00
Tools and instruments . . . . .	679.02

## Books:

City appropriation . . . . .	\$91,276.19
Trust funds income . . . . .	21,262.00
	<u>112,538.19</u>

## Newspapers:

City appropriation . . . . .	519.73
Todd fund . . . . .	1,815.05
	<u>2,334.78</u>

Periodicals . . . . .	8,775.59
Photographs . . . . .	282.00
General plant equipment . . . . .	788.53

129,140.69

## To expenditures for supplies:

Office . . . . .	4,052.88
Food and ice . . . . .	379.40
Fuel . . . . .	19,494.46
Forage for animals . . . . .	20.50
Medical . . . . .	12.78
Laundry, cleaning and toilet . . . . .	1,259.50
Agricultural . . . . .	44.70
Chemicals and disinfectants . . . . .	32.29
General plant . . . . .	2,261.24

27,557.75Carried forward . . . . . \$747,572.82

# EXPENSES, JANUARY 31, 1925.

CR.

By CITY APPROPRIATION 1924-1925 . . . . .	\$828,567.00	
Income from Trust Funds . . . . .	24,852.54	
Income from James L. Whitney Bibliographic account . . . . .	700.00	
Interest on deposit in London . . . . .	243.90	
	<hr/>	\$854,363.44

By BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD FROM 1924:		
Trust funds income, City Treasury . . . . .	46,615.09	
Trust funds income on deposit in London . . . . .	17,292.45	
City appropriation on deposit in London . . . . .	4,298.04	
James L. Whitney Bibliographic account . . . . .	5,260.61	
Library Building Addition, equipping and furnishing . . . . .	15,803.50	
	<hr/>	89,269.69

Carried forward . . . . .	<hr/>	\$943,633.13
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## BALANCE SHEET, RECEIPTS AND

DR.

<i>Brought forward</i> . . . . .		\$747,572.82
To expenditures for material		
Building . . . . .	\$ 171.00	
Electric . . . . .	2,002.49	
General plant . . . . .	4,701.78	
		<u>6,875.27</u>
Special items		
Pensions . . . . .	1,315.69	
Workingmen's compensation (Bindery) . . . . .	107.45	
James L. Whitney Bibliographic account . . . . .	340.46	
		<u>1,763.60</u>
BINDING DEPARTMENT:		
Salaries . . . . .	56,858.09	
Stock . . . . .	5,627.83	
Equipment . . . . .	4,756.52	
Light . . . . .	54.16	
Repairs . . . . .	154.95	
Medical service . . . . .	10.00	
Furniture, tools, ice and small supplies . . . . .	67.30	
		<u>67,528.85</u>
PRINTING DEPARTMENT:		
Salaries . . . . .	13,101.06	
Stock . . . . .	1,998.27	
Equipment . . . . .	2,179.27	
Light . . . . .	36.11	
Repairs . . . . .	36.11	
Outside work . . . . .	101.02	
Travelling expenses . . . . .	80.82	
Furniture, tools, ice and small supplies . . . . .	58.09	
		<u>17,590.75</u>
SPECIAL APPROPRIATION: Library Building Addition		
Equipping and furnishing . . . . .	4,004.11	
		<u>4,004.11</u>
To AMOUNT PAID INTO CITY TREASURY:		
From fines . . . . .	13,437.15	
Sales of catalogues, bulletins and lists . . . . .	71.53	
Commission on telephone stations . . . . .	415.68	
Payments for lost books . . . . .	1,019.75	
Sale of waste paper . . . . .	554.76	
Interest on deposit . . . . .	17.67	
		<u>15,516.54</u>
To BALANCE, JANUARY 31, 1925:		
Trust funds income on deposit in London . . . . .	8,821.10	
City appropriation on deposit in London . . . . .	3,726.53	
Trust funds income, City Treasury . . . . .	56,579.93	
James L. Whitney Bibliographic account . . . . .	5,620.15	
Interest on deposit in London . . . . .	243.90	
		<u>74,991.61</u>
BALANCE UNEXPENDED:		
General appropriation . . . . .	11,506.73	
Special appropriation, Library Building Addition . . . . .	11,799.39	
		<u>23,306.12</u>
		<u>\$959,149.67</u>

## EXPENSES, JANUARY 31, 1925.

		CR.
<i>Brought forward.</i>		\$943,633.13
By RECEIPTS:		
From fines	13,437.15	
Sales of catalogues, bulletins and lists	71.53	
Commission on telephone stations	415.68	
Payments for lost books	1,019.75	
Sale of waste paper	554.76	
Interest on deposit	17.67	
	<hr/>	15,516.54

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\$959,149.67

# REPORT OF THE EXAMINING COMMITTEE

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
OF THE CITY OF BOSTON.

*Gentlemen:*

The Examining Committee takes pleasure in submitting its report for the year ending January 31, 1925.

## INTRODUCTION.

This Committee was formally organized on November 18, 1924, and subdivided into various visiting committees to examine and report upon the different branches of work and conditions of the Boston Public Library. While recognizing that this Committee's function is advisory, its members have given thorough and earnest consideration to the subjects before them and have reached definite conclusions. These are embodied in recommendations which form the conclusion of this report.

In preface to its report the Committee wishes to emphasize the critical situation of some of the Library affairs. The increase in service demanded by the public to keep pace with the growth of educational, artistic, scientific, and business needs, as well as general reading, has taxed to the limit the financial resources.

While substantial increases have been made in the annual appropriation for maintenance and for the purchase of books, the funds have not been sufficient to make necessary repairs and improvements in the Central Library building. This condition can no longer continue without serious detriment to the City's property and the ultimate expenditure of still larger sums. The immediate needs of the Library and the results of the Committee's examinations are grouped as follows:

## ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE.

Your Committee has given special attention at this time to the main library building, Copley Square, because of the imperative need of repairs and extensions.

Second only to the service rendered is the influence of the Library through its appearance. It is generally conceded that no other building in the United States has had a greater influence upon the appreciation of fine architecture and suitable features than the Boston Public Library. The prophetic vision of Joshua Bates in 1852 — "My ideas are that the building should contain lofty apartments to serve for placing the books and also for reading purposes . . . The architecture should be such that the student on entering it will be impressed and elevated and feel pride that such a place is free to him . . . I wish to see the institution a model for other towns and cities." — has been wonderfully fulfilled. The fine library building erected in 1895 has made possible the great growth in circulation for the educational, research and general reading requirements. The general circulation has advanced from 832,113 volumes in 1894 to over 3,000,000 volumes in 1924.

Although the City administration has given a large measure of support to the Library, it has not been possible to use any considerable portion of the annual appropriations for changes or even the necessary maintenance of the building itself. One instance is in the ordinary painting of the interior, but very little refinishing having been done since the erection of the Library. There are leaks in the roof and serious defects in certain mechanical and constructional features. The Committee has examined these in detail and they are too numerous to list in this report.

The main ventilating system has long been abandoned; the main fan cannot run; the prime radiators have been taken away and the air filters have disappeared. The original system was of excellent design and it would be well if it could be restored.

Check valves should be installed in certain pipes to keep sewage from leaking into the building and entering the basement and its pneumatic tube system.



The metal chimney stack needs attention; the pump and fountain tanks should be cleaned and repaired. Some of the main steam line pipes should be replaced; and a back pressure valve furnished on the heating lines; a new return tank is required.

For the sake of safety the elevators should be repaired. The book railway has been out of service for some time and as a result the Library is hiring messengers at an increased expense in operation.

There are some fundamental alterations and rearrangements of increasing importance. There is need of two additional stories on the Annex which would provide not only stack room for the increasing collection of large books now kept in unsightly cabinets in the various galleries of the Special Libraries floor, but would permit the removal of the Catalogue and Ordering Departments to a more suitable location and enable the Children's Department to be transferred to the ground floor and given a separate entrance on Blagden Street.

Another most important change will be the moving of the Music Department into the North Gallery on Boylston Street, thus giving increased room for this department and enabling the Music Room to be fitted up as a Treasure Room.

The constant pruning of appropriations by powers outside the Library has led to a certain physical neglect of the building and its plant. This has become cumulative through the years, but the time has now come when money must be spent in larger amounts upon this part of the City's property, or paralysis of its function will result.

It is urgent that at least \$50,000. be set aside for extraordinary repairs during 1925 and the succeeding years until the property is built up to a standard that can be maintained.

#### BRANCHES.

The problem of properly housing branch libraries is one which must be recognized as of great importance in the service rendered in different parts of the city. Especially is this so in relation to making adequate provisions for the future.

There are now twelve branches for which rent is being paid. In such cases as the Boylston Station Branch and the Warren Street Branch it is quite unlikely that first-class quarters can be hired for branches. While some provisions may be made for branches in school buildings, your Committee is firmly convinced that the best service can be rendered by branch library buildings well located in each section and with the maximum usefulness in the right apportionment of space for delivery, reading and service departments.

Such branch buildings can be brought about only by local activity and earnest work for such buildings. Your Committee recommends a forward-looking program for the acquirement of a few branch buildings each year as the needs become more apparent.

All branches were visited and an examination made of the libraries and the working conditions. The West End Branch, the largest and most active one in the city, shows a falling off in circulation, due to changes in population. It should be added that a personal service is being given to those using the reading rooms and taking out books — service that cannot be measured. It is hoped that the grounds surrounding this beautiful historic building can be improved under the direction of the Trustees after the widening of Cambridge Street.

The Brighton Branch was found to be in need of repairs to the roof, vestibule door and to the furniture. While the location is excellent, it is desirable that the sign on the building be lighted so that people can locate the branch.

The Allston Branch, on the second floor, at the corner of Harvard and Brighton Avenues, is an exceedingly poor layout for a library. The location is good, but street floor quarters are much more desirable. This is one of the branches for which new quarters seem to be essential to the increased service which will be required in this populous district.

Another poorly located branch, housed in a municipal building, is that in Dorchester. The sanitary conditions and lighting, still with gas, are most unsatisfactory. The rooms used are up long, steep stairs.

At the Dorchester Lower Mills Branch the quarters are not

adequate to the circulation of the books. If the Public Buildings Department of the City were to turn over the next room, formerly a police station, now empty and available, to its use, it would be an immense improvement at a comparatively small expense.

The Mattapan Branch shows an encouraging improvement over last year. Its chief defect, which it shares with most of the other branches, is lack of space. The circulation has increased about 20,000 books this year. If there is an opportunity of securing additional space, it will add much to the usefulness of this library.

The Mt. Bowdoin Branch is pleasant and well situated, but inadequate to its needs. It would be very desirable if the whole building could be used for library purposes.

The main South Boston Branch at 372 Broadway is one of the oldest in the entire city and it is also one of the busiest. It has put into circulation over 138,000 books thus far this year. Its quarters are inadequate, although satisfactory as far as they go. The branch is used more and more by so many children that the space for adult readers is greatly encroached upon. More books in foreign languages for the use of adult readers should be provided.

Reports of sub-committee visits to other branches show the need in some instances of better housing, and particularly improvement in lighting, many lights being too high for readers' use. These conditions have led to the recommendation that it would be desirable to hire two men permanently to go from one branch to another to do the carpentering and painting so constantly needed.

#### CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT AND WORK WITH SCHOOLS.

This department of the Library, having the welfare of the future citizens in its hands, should be given the greatest consideration.

This year, many thousands of dollars have been expended for purchasing books for the younger readers; still the supply is inadequate.

Not enough can be said in praise of the great value of the Story Hour to the children, both in their school work and in their everyday activities.

The Supervisor of Work with Children has kindly offered to talk to the pupils of the public schools, giving them definite instructions concerning books and the subjects which they may wish to look up. It is hoped that the principals will avail themselves of this helpful and generous offer.

She also suggests that more teachers accompany their classes to the library that they may familiarize themselves with its use.

The librarians in the various branches have been doing splendid work by their co-operation with the evening schools in their Americanization classes. Much praise should be given to the employees of the Library for their efforts in behalf of the children.

#### BOOKS AND CATALOGUES.

The chief function of a library is the education and delectation of the public through the circulation of proper books and through encouragement and direction in their use. As a community grows in numbers and as the amount of available leisure time of its individuals increases, so should the number of books and the facility of their distribution be augmented. That such a condition may obtain, certain factors are of paramount importance: a sufficient number of books, adequate funds for their provision and ample room for storing, protecting and handling them.

As one walks through the inner rooms of the Library, there are several features which should attract critical comment; the crowding of certain rooms, the inadequate space for carrying on the work of the institution, and the need of repairs in the physical condition of the building are apparent.

#### PRINTING AND BINDING.

New machinery added during the past year seems to have thoroughly justified itself. Plans under way for increasing the equipment of the Printing Department are approved. The Bindery is in great need of a number of minor machines to pro-

duce the work economically and to meet the increasing needs in rebinding.

#### SPECIAL LIBRARIES.

The Committee finds that the special collections of permanent value, which are the most distinguishing feature of any library, are suffering because the income from invested funds is not sufficient to provide for the acquirement of books which are essential for current study and scholarly research in trades, arts and sciences.

There should be much more general understanding of the value and needs of these special collections, and this can best be brought about through publicity, extending over a considerable period. This should lead to gifts and endowments for the particular collections or departments in which the donors are interested.

The New York Public Library has an endowment of \$16,000,000. The Boston Public Library has an available endowment of less than \$800,000. So serious a handicap is rapidly lowering the usefulness and scholarly standing of our Library.

The policy of private endowment for public libraries is well established, but in Boston there has never been a systematic effort to build up such funds. The members of the Examining Committee most strongly urge that the Trustees take immediate action for such publicity, and the appointment of a committee to build up adequate gift and endowment funds.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS.

The Committee has discussed in much detail, and wishes to emphasize, four pressing needs for the maintenance and progress of the Library.

1. That a continuing large book appropriation is vitally essential and that under no circumstances should it be reduced from that of last year.
2. That a large appropriation be made for the necessary repairs and improvements in the main library building.

3. That the over-crowding of certain branches be overcome and environment features be improved.
4. That a plan of publicity be adopted so that citizens may know more about the services and needs of the Library, such publicity to assist in securing maintenance appropriations and gifts for building up the special collections.

#### CONCLUSIONS.

The Committee extends its thanks to the Director and to all the staff of the Library with whom its members have had conferences. The contact of the Committee with the affairs of the Library is most convincing of the great service which the institution is giving; the importance of maintaining its prestige and extending its opportunities for the cultural progress and attainments of all who come within its influence.

Adopted as the Report of the Examining Committee, January 30, 1925.

## REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR.

### TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

I respectfully submit my report for the year ending January 31, 1925.

### THE CENTRAL AND BRANCH BUILDINGS.

Year after year attention has been called to the pressing need for repairs and renewal of equipment. After thirty years of use most of the mechanical equipment of the Central Library has now broken down. The book carrier system has been out of commission for several months, necessitating the carrying of all books by messenger, with a consequent delay in service. The frequent breakdown of the pneumatic tube system which carries the call-slips for books from the issue room to the various floors of the library stacks, has resulted in serious delays, confusion, and on the part of the users of the Library many complaints. No funds have been available to improve the unsatisfactory lighting in different parts of the building, to which attention has been frequently called. The heating system is said to be only thirty per cent efficient, while the ventilating system, old fashioned and inadequate, except for the lecture-hall unit installed last year, is practically useless. Criticism is continually being received of the lack of proper ventilation. Most of the departments of the Library require thorough cleaning and re-painting, while others need new equipment and re-arrangement for greater efficiency of service. The mural decorations demand immediate attention, in order to prevent serious deterioration.

Similar conditions prevail, as has been noted, at many of the branches of the library system. Cleaning, painting, lighting, additional equipment are greatly needed, especially in the branches located in municipal buildings. The Library Depart-

ment has the good will of the Buildings Department of the City, but appropriations are insufficient to keep in attractive and suitable condition the library quarters under municipal care.

#### CIRCULATION AND ACCESSION OF BOOKS.

The year has been one of progress. The total home circulation of books throughout the system was 3,132,194 volumes, a gain of 209,333 over 1923-24. The branch circulation, exclusive of the deposits of books sent to schools and various institutions, was 2,283,777 volumes, a gain of 148,078 volumes over the previous year, while the increase in deposits was 46,056 volumes.

The Central Library shows a direct home circulation of 623,024 volumes. In place of the loss reported last year, there is a gain of 46,027 volumes over the home circulation of the Central Library in 1923-24.

The inability of the Central Library and the Branches to meet the legitimate call for books on the part of the citizens of Boston is a matter of regret. The home use of books would doubtless be increased by several millions of volumes annually, if the Library possessed the books for which a reasonable demand is made, and if there were the necessary new branches in those sections of the city at present unprovided with satisfactory library service.

Interesting comparative tables showing the use of books may be found on pages 62-65 of the Appendix.

The book accessions for the year total 80,855 volumes, of which 66,483 were acquired by purchase and 12,003 by gift. A somewhat increased book appropriation enabled the Library to buy a larger number of current books than in the preceding year, and together with the available income from Trust Funds made possible an outlay of \$112,409.74.

In addition, \$8,775.59 was expended for current periodicals, \$2,155.43 for current newspapers and \$589.80 for lantern slides and photographs, making a total of \$123,930.56 paid for books and allied material, or approximately fourteen per cent of the total expenditures of the Library for the year.



In re-budgeting the gross sum of \$100,000, allowed by the City for books, approximately eighty per cent was devoted to branch library use and apportioned to the individual branches on the basis of their yearly circulation. The sum agreed upon for this purpose early in the year was \$77,379 (\$74,000 for books, \$3,379 for periodicals and newspapers), but owing to unusual purchases, chiefly expensive books of reference, this sum was exceeded by \$1,944, bringing the total to \$79,323.20 (books \$75,861.74, periodicals \$3,055.46, newspapers \$306).

For the Central Library there was available the sum of \$20,677 from the City appropriation, to cover the acquisition of current popular books, including fiction, circulating music, directories and other working tools for the Information Room, current periodicals, a part of the newspaper subscriptions, and replacement of missing books, particularly non-fiction.

From the income available from Trust Funds, \$23,359.05 supplemented the City appropriation, and after setting aside the Todd Fund of \$2,000 for newspapers, there was left something over \$21,000 for the upkeep and development of the many collections shelved in the Special Libraries Department — fine arts, architecture, music (for the Allen A. Brown Library), photographs, Americana, maps, and early printed books, — as well as for encyclopaedias and atlases, genealogy and history for other departments of reference.

From these available funds only a few older works of importance could be purchased. Those that were bought are believed to be of exceptional significance for the Boston Library, especially a Portolan Atlas consisting of six manuscript sea charts, of which four cover all of the American coast line as known in the latter part of the sixteenth century.

These charts, drawn on parchment and mounted on stiff cardboard, are bound in old French morocco and measure  $10\frac{1}{4}$  by  $13\frac{3}{4}$  inches; the first page is filled by a large reproduction, in gold and colors, of the jewel of the Order of the Annunciation, bearing the arms of one of the Dukes of Savoy. The first map in the volume shows Panama and the whole of South America excepting the extreme eastern part; the second gives the coast of Brazil; the third, the Caribbean Sea and the

eastern coast of North America; fourth, the Mediterranean; fifth, the northern half of eastern North America; the last, the African coast from Guinea round the Cape of Good Hope to Madagascar. The coast lines are shown in full detail, with hundreds of names written in, the lower courses of rivers, a scale of miles, and the compass-rose in gold and colors. On the chart of the Mediterranean the most striking feature is an elaborate view of the city of Marseilles, with its flags flying, covering most of southeastern France, and in the right-hand corner the inscription "Augustin Roussin m'a feict dans la ville de marseille."

No clue is found to tell who Augustin Roussin may have been or what, if any, connection he may have had with the coat of arms, but the character of the workmanship seems to indicate the hand of a practical navigator who has brought together his data from actual experience assisted by tradition. The purchase of this unusual volume was concluded only when expert authorities had pronounced upon its genuineness and importance; it is the first original example of a sailing chart of the period to be acquired by the Library.

Among accessions of local interest was a copy of an early Boston imprint, based upon an English book of the same name, entitled *The young secretary's guide: or, a speedy help to learning*. In two parts. With a dictionary added . . . Also an appendix. Collected by B. W. Boston, N. E. Printed by B. Green, for Nicholas Buttolph . . . 1708.

A note to the reader contains this statement, "It's thought good to make a collection of such presidents (sic) as are most in use among us here in New England and to fit them . . . to the circumstances of this country." It has been suggested that B. W. was Benjamin Wadsworth, president of Harvard College.

Another interesting acquisition was a small worn pamphlet lacking the lower halves of three leaves, with a continuous pagination which stopped with page 42. This was identified as an incomplete copy of "Good fetch'd out of evil" (Boston, 1706) by Cotton Mather, containing his comments on the Deerfield massacre and incorporating a pastoral letter from the Reverend John Williams, then in captivity, addressed to his departing companions, dated May 28, 1706. Furthermore, it was found

that a fragment of this pamphlet was contained in the Prince Library and that the fragment consisted of pages 23 to 26 and the necessary concluding pages 43 to 46 "finis." This happy junction resulted in a nearly complete copy of a Mather pamphlet of which only one other (and that imperfect) is known, in the Library of the Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association at Deerfield.

Among the books currently published the most attractive in form and costly in price are those which are needed to extend the collections of architecture, painting, landscape gardening, and book illustration. The Codman Collection of Landscape Architecture and Landscape Gardening is the only one of these divisions which has a special sustaining fund, generously given by the family whose name it bears, to insure the purchase of books needed for its development.

For the fine arts the purchases are governed by the money that can be spared from limited funds, a sum which might well be doubled or trebled to keep pace with the mounting cost of book production, and the appreciating value of older works of note. The following selected titles show some of the important additions made to the Special Libraries during the year.

Ashton, Leigh. An introduction to the study of Chinese sculpture. London. 1924. Plates.

Bénédict, Léonce. A series of 60 photogravure plates. London. 1924.

Benson, Arthur Christopher & Sir Lawrence Weaver, editors. The book of the Queen's Dolls' House. 2 v. London. 1924. Colored portraits. This house was made for Queen Mary of England.

Bossert, Helmuth Theodor, editor. Two thousand decorative motifs in colour, forming a survey of the applied art of all ages and all countries. London. 1924. Colored plates.

Brown, Louise Norton. Block printing & book illustration in Japan. London. 1924. Plates.

Crisp, Sir Frank. Mediaeval gardens. 'Flowery Medes' and other arrangements of herbs, flowers and shrubs grown in the Middle Ages, with some account of Tudor, Elizabethan and Stuart gardens. 2 v. London. 1924. Plates.

Drinkwater, John. Claud Lovat Fraser. By John Drinkwater and Albert Rutherston. With representative examples of his work reproduced in collotype and line. London. 1923. Portrait. Plates.

Eisen, Gustav August. The great chalice of Antioch, on which are

- depicted in sculpture the earliest known portraits of Christ, Apostles and Evangelists. 2 v. New York. 1923. Plates.
- Feuillet, Raoul Auger. Recüeil de dances contenant un très grand nombres (sic) des meillieures entrées de ballet de Mr. Pécour, tant pour homme que pour femmes, dont la plus grande partie ont été dancées à l'Opéra. A Paris. 1704. Music. Engraved throughout. For the Allen A. Brown Library.
- Jessen, Peter. Rococo engravings. Two hundred plates of the eighteenth century selected by Dr. Peter Jessen and reproduced in collotype. London. 1922.
- Kendrick, Albert, and C. E. C. Tattersall. Fine carpets in the Victoria & Albert Museum. Twenty examples, reproduced for the first time in colour, of old carpets from Persia, India, Caucasia, Armenia, Turkey, China, Spain and England. London. 1924. Illus. Colored plates.
- Koop, Albert J. Early Chinese bronzes. London. 1924. Plates.
- Meier-Graefe, Julius A. Cézanne und seine Ahnen. Faksimiles nach Aquarellen, Feder- und anderen Zeichnungen von Tintoretto, Greco, Poussin, Corot, Delacroix, Cézanne. München. 1921. Plates.
- Millais, John Guille. Rhododendrons . . . and the various hybrids. Second series. London. [1924.] Plates.
- Nevill, Ralph Henry. Old French line engravings. London. 1924. Plates.
- Rackham, Bernard, and Herbert Read. English pottery: its development from early times to the end of the eighteenth century. London. 1924. Plates.
- Watts, William Whitehead. Old English silver. London. 1924. Plates.
- Westlake, Herbert Francis. Westminster Abbey, the church, convent, cathedral and college of St. Peter, Westminster. London. 1923. 2 v. Illus. Plates. Plans. Ornamental initials.
- Williams, P. H. Oakley, editor. Selections from the work of P. A. de László represented by a selection of 64 of his portraits in photo-gravure. London. 1923. Portraits.

**Other noteworthy acquisitions include:**

- Bishop Harsnett's Declaration of egregious Popish impostures to withdraw the harts of his maiestie's subiects from their allegiance. London. 1604. (Secured at the Britwell Sale.)
- A first edition of James Hodder's Arithmetick; or that necessary art made most easie. London. 1661. (From the Britwell Sale for the Bowditch Library.)
- John Marbeck's A book of notes and common-places, with their expositions . . . London. 1581. (From the Britwell Sale)

- Thomas Dilworth's *A new guide to the English tongue*. Boston. 1783.
- The Player's Shakespeare in 4 volumes, London, 1923-24, a literal reprint of the First Folio of 1623, illustrated in color by artists associated with the modern stage.
- An issue of the Bibliophile Society, Dickens in cartoon and caricature, compiled by William Glyde Wilkins, with portraits and plates.
- A portrait of George Washington, engraved by Timothy Cole from the painting by Wilford Seymour Conrow, Boston, 1924; William Cullen Bryant's copy of Longfellow's *Poems*, published in Liverpool, in 1850 and a first issue of the first edition of the *Manuel de proverbes dramatiques*, Portland, 1850. (For the Artz Collection.)
- An autograph letter of three pages signed by the late President Wilson addressed to his brother-in-law, Stockton Axson, dated Princeton, July 20, 1892, accompanying a note of introduction to Judge Chamberlain, the Chief Librarian of the "Boston Public". The letter to Mr. Axson concludes with the words "In a tired man's haste but with the freshest possible affection. Your affectionate brother, Woodrow Wilson."
- A collection of Early American books for children, published chiefly in Boston, 1815 to 1850, and a collection covering about the same period published in London.
- John Florio's *Second fruytes* . . . London, 1591, which contains "Phaëton to his friend Florio," believed to be Shakespeare's first printed correspondence.

The older books instanced extend, volume by volume, some of the rare collections which the Library has acquired by gift and by purchase. Indeed all the rare and costly books in the possession of the Library may be said to be gifts, since the funds from which they are bought were all either gifts or bequests.

Very many of these books could not be matched today for ten times their original cost, and while it is a pleasure to know that the Library possesses collections of great value and interest, much coveted material which would still further enrich their content lies beyond the present means of the institution to secure.

Arrangements have been made during the fiscal year with the Reference Service on International Affairs, of the American Library in Paris, to send current material of special or general interest, issued by foreign governments, which is not easily procurable. This service might be widely extended to add desirable material to the Department of Documents and Statistics.

## GIFTS OF THE YEAR.

During the year 12,119 volumes and 22,121 issues of serials were received by gift from 7,105 givers. In addition, 50 newspaper subscriptions were received in continuation, 167 photographs, 59 maps, 1 medallion and 219 travel posters. Besides these gifts, which were recorded in the Ordering Department, the Information Room reports 450 annuals received, chiefly school and college catalogues and government publications, and 1,200 serials. These consist mainly of duplicate material for current use in the Room.

There were also received two gifts of money from the following sources: Under the will of the late David P. Kimball, of Boston, a legacy of \$10,000, the income to be applied to the purchase of books in accordance with the terms of the bequest; under the will of the late Isabella Stewart Gardner, a bequest of \$5,000, "for the Brown Musical Library in the Boston Public Library for a memorial to B. J. Lang."

Other gifts of interest are noted as follows: From Mr. George Carroll Curtis, six geography models, true scale reliefs 9" × 9", representing the form of the earth's surface, for use in connection with school work; from Mr. A. E. Baranger of Los Angeles, a miniature log cabin with the plastic figures of Priscilla and John Alden used in the Charles Ray Motion Pictures; from William Filene Sons Company, sixty-one mounted photographs, 14" × 16", which were exhibited at the William Filene Sons Company's store during New England week, Sept. 15th to 20th, 1924, and included 43 portraits of men and women "of New England fame"; from the Columbia Phonograph Company, for the Allen A. Brown Music Library, four volumes of their Masterworks Fine Arts Series, comprising complete recordings of Beethoven's Seventh and Eighth Symphonies, Haydn's Quartet in D Major and Mozart's Quartet in C Major; from the Massachusetts Federation of Music Clubs, through Miss Alice Hutchinson, forty-two pieces of music (published works), contributed by the composers, Clara Kathleen Rogers, Margaret Ruthven Lang, and Henry F. Gilbert, for circulation in Massa-

chusetts, and for the Allen A. Brown Music Library a manuscript score of "In the Mountains" by Arthur Foote, and the manuscript of Three Pieces for flute, harp and string quartet by Daniel Gregory Mason; from Mr. James W. Kenney, a photograph of Sichel's Madonna in a hand-carved frame, 48" × 37", for the North End Branch; from the Chicago, North Shore and Milwaukee Railroad Company, the London and Northeastern Railway, the London, Midland and Scottish Railway, and the South Manchuria Railway Company some 60 attractive colored posters, among the more by Frank Brangwyn.

In addition to the foregoing, there will be found on pages 72-78 of the Appendix a list of books of individual importance and collections of books under the names of the givers.

#### REGISTRATION DEPARTMENT.

On February 1, 1924, there were 117,119 "live" cards, that is, registered cards available for present use. During the year just closed 31,726 new registrations, and 31,365 renewals, making a total of 63,091 cards, have been added through the Central Library and branches. There have been 56,216 borrowers who have allowed their home use privilege to lapse, thus leaving a total of 123,994 "live cards" on February 1, 1925; a gain of 6,875 over last year. The gain in registered "live cards" for a five year period has been 21,603.

There had been in all 9,023 cards issued to teachers prior to February 1, 1925. Of this number 1,152 have been renewed and 409 added during the year, making a total of 1,561 teachers' cards in use compared with 1,275 in 1923-24.

Of the 3,562 special privilege cards which had been issued up to February 1, 1925, there were 276 renewals and 153 new cards granted during the year, making a total of 429 special privilege cards in use compared with 404 in 1923-24.

The Department has maintained its efficiency in crowded and inconvenient quarters. As soon as funds permit, provision must be made, as pointed out last year, for the care of the records which have outgrown their present quarters.



## CATALOGUE AND SHELF DEPARTMENT.

The number of volumes and parts of volumes catalogued during the year 1924-25 was 101,128, representing 73,820 titles. Of these 24,135 were books new to the Library; 4,685 were new serials; 19,007 were works recatalogued; and 53,301 were books for the branches. The cataloguing of the books for the branches was done in the Central Branch Department, but the figures are included here to show the total volume of the work in this line.

The number of cards printed during the year was 219,546, of which 188,328 were added to the catalogues of the Central Library, and 31,218 were sent to the branches. Of the cards filed in the Central Library 54,857 were placed in the Bates Hall and Issue Department catalogues; 56,504 in the Official catalogues; and 24,814 in the catalogues of the Special Libraries. Also 52,153 were sent to the Library of Congress and Harvard College Library, and to the compilers of various lists now in process of making, and printed cards for all new books were set aside as copy for the *Monthly Bulletin*. Under the new "rush" system, titles of new bound books were filed in the catalogues the day after their shelf-numbers were assigned.

Some falling off from last year in the number of cards printed (although the number of two years ago is still exceeded) is due to the process of reconditioning the Printing Department. Several large subdivisions are in process of recataloguing and reclassification, especially in the fields of United States history and science. Notice should also be made of the work done in response to various requests for aid from other libraries and from individuals, of which no definite record can be shown.

The Department continues to be handicapped by vacancies in several positions which are difficult to fill, as they require experts, who are not attracted by the salaries that can be offered. These vacancies have been partially balanced by the employment of several temporary and part-time assistants.

The completion of Stacks 5 and 6 of the Annex late in the year 1923 permitted a readjustment of the general collection of



books, which for a number of years had been overcrowded and subjected to unrelated changes. The Shelf Division, during the year just completed, has arranged the entire collection among the stacks, carefully plotting each shelf to secure an equitable division of space among the class groups.

The usual details relating to the work of the Catalogue and Shelf Department may be found on pages 66–68 of the Appendix.

#### PUBLICATIONS.

At the end of 1923 the *Quarterly Bulletin* and the *Weekly List of New Books*, which had been begun in 1908, were discontinued, and in their place there has been issued monthly during 1924, a *Bulletin of Recent Books*. This list is restricted to the titles of books which are believed to be of popular interest and which circulate without restriction. The dictionary arrangement of the *Quarterly Bulletin*, with entries under author, title and subject, has been continued. Twelve numbers, of 2,075 copies each, were published.

Other library publications of the year included the following:

*Ten-Book Lists*, nos. 105–109. Complete sets of these lists have also been assembled and bound, with title-page, subject index and lists of issues, giving names of the compilers, and placed on file in every department of the Central Library and in all the branches.

*Brief Reading Lists*, nos. 14 (3d edition), 25–31. The subjects were as follows: No. 14 (3d edition), one-act plays in English, 1900–1923, compiled by Michael J. Conroy, of the Bates Hall Reference Desk; no. 25 (Supplement), Health and Hygiene, prepared in connection with the New England Health Institute, May 4–10, 1924, by L. E. Taylor, of the Catalogue Department; no. 27, some Useful Reference Books of 1923, compiled by Frank H. Chase, Reference Librarian, in connection with his address at the January meeting of the Massachusetts Library Club; no. 28, Landmarks in Music, Boston, 1630–1924, prepared in connection with Boston Music Week, May 4–10, 1924, by Richard G. Appel; no. 29, Advertising,

compiled by Pierce E. Buckley, Custodian, Bates Hall Centre Desk; no. 30, (in press); no. 31, Operas; a Selected List of Scores, Librettos and Related Works, compiled by Richard G. Appel, of the Music Division.

In connection with the film-play, "The Ten Commandments," there was issued a short list of books on Egypt; its past civilization and present state, prepared by Mary A. Tenney, of the Catalogue Department.

A third edition was issued of Graded Lists of Books for Children's Reading, Grades III and IV, compiled by Alice M. Jordan, Supervisor of Work with Children.

There was also reprinted a list entitled Fifty Educational Books of 1923, prepared by the Youngstown, O., Public Library, for the American Library Association.

*Lists for Branch Use*, prepared in the Branch Department, have been issued as follows: no. 1, One Hundred Books of Travel; no. 2, One Hundred Biographies; no. 3, Gardens and Gardening; no. 4, Guides to Reading; no. 4a, West Roxbury Book Review List; no. 5, Fifty Italian Books; no. 6, Citizenship List; no. 7, Modern Plays; no. 8, Recent Verse.

*Library Life*, the Staff Bulletin of the Library, published on the 15th of each month, the summer months excepted, entered upon its fourth year in October, with a reorganized staff of ten members, all of whom share in the collection and reporting of news, the preparation of copy, the reading of proof and the final make-up for publication, and one of whom is in turn Editor-in-Charge for each monthly issue.

The plan has been wholly successful and the paper has gained in liveliness and variety of interest; it is this year proving more useful than ever as a medium of expression for the life of the Library.

In connection with the course of lectures on the programs of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, planned by Mr. Appel of the Music Division in co-operation with the Extension Division of the State Board of Education, a program and reading list was issued for each lecture, which gave, with the program for the ensuing concert, a list of scores and works about the composers and their music in the possession of the Library. There were also

included lists of the existing recordings of music to be given, many of the records being used to illustrate the lectures.

It is noted with pleasure that the recording companies have presented to the Library such records, together with a number of other classic recordings, thus forming a basis of an unusual and valuable collection. The acceptance of these gifts — of the continuance of which we have the promise — carries an obligation to provide means whereby the records may be made available for individual study in the Music Division, as well as for illustration in the Lecture Hall. Recent and pending advances in reproductive methods give ground for hope that in the near future it will be possible to arrange for this in a manner entirely free from annoyance to other users of the Brown Collection. It is to be hoped that some music lover may be found who will appreciate these possibilities and enable the Library further to enhance the usefulness of Mr. Brown's noble gift.

*A Guide to Serial Publications* founded prior to 1918 and now or recently current in Boston, Cambridge and vicinity, compiled and edited by Thomas Johnston Homer; Part III, pages 192-288, Esp.-Int. inclusive, 1050 copies. Eighty-five libraries are represented, and Part III contains main entries from 3953 to 5797. Half of Part IV is in proof. The remaining material will be printed as soon and as continuously as it is possible for the copy to be prepared, but it is, meanwhile, accessible for use in the Barton Gallery of the Central Library.

*Opportunities for Adult Education in Greater Boston.* A list of free public lectures and public educational courses offered during the year 1924-25.

#### BATES HALL.

The main reference hall continues to be the busiest workroom in the Central Library. The total number of volumes from the various collections consulted in Bates Hall was 248,552, an increase of 393 over last year. These figures relate only to the use of books sent to Bates Hall from the stacks, for which call-slips were filed. No account can be kept of the use of the

large reference collection, numbering over 10,000 volumes, surrounding the walls of the hall itself.

The service of the Information Office has relieved Bates Hall from the stream of those who merely want to look up a single fact, but the absence of these inquirers is more than made up by the increasing number of students making use of the room for their own purposes, many of whom do not call for library books. Most of these students are quiet and can be accommodated, but the law students often become so boisterous in discussing the cases which they are studying that strong measures are sometimes necessary to muffle them. The presence of these students has had the effect of driving many persons who wish to study without interruption to the Barton Library. Following in the path into which other libraries have been forced, it may become necessary for this Library to exclude certain classes of students from Bates Hall, at least in the evening and on Sunday.

During the second week in January, for a considerable part of two days, there was standing room only in Bates Hall. The reference books proved to be such a magnet to those who were seeking the solutions to prize crossword puzzles that at one time 432 persons were counted in the room, although it has chairs for only 310. Those who could not find seats, all converted for the moment into earnest students, were clustered in swarms about the walls like bees in a flower-garden. There was a quiet buzzing, but no disorder. This earnestness was very destructive to the reference books and cost the Library three copies of Webster's "International Dictionary," to say nothing of extensive bindery repairs.

The correspondence of the Reference Department was unusually large during the year. Seven hundred and thirty-eight inquiries were received by mail and answered; of these sixty-nine came from the city of Boston, two hundred and eight from Massachusetts, and thirty from foreign countries, with England leading. Through many of these letters the work of the Library in adult education is extended over a wide field.

There have been four hundred and eighty-six changes in the reference collection during the year; one hundred and sixty-four new titles have been added and forty-six books have been re-

turned to the stacks as no longer useful. The losses of the year from the Hall have been larger than usual, amounting to two hundred and thirty-three volumes. The recovery of nine books missing in former years brings the net loss down to two hundred and twenty-four.

It is a pleasure to note the constructive work for the improvement of the card catalogue which is being carried on by the Card Division. The service of the Hall has, on the other hand, been impaired by the serious breakdown of the machinery in the stacks, which has caused unusual delay in the delivery of books. Readers have been patient and it is expected that the situation will soon begin to improve.

Conditions at the public catalogue are at present very crowded at certain seasons of the year. The substitution of high tables, at which users of the catalogue would stand, for the present form of table which is very wasteful of space, would help in relieving the congestion. Twice as many persons could use the catalogue if this change were made.

#### THE NEWSPAPER AND PATENT ROOMS.

The number of papers now regularly filed in the Newspaper Room is 276. During the past year seven papers have been added to the list and two have either ceased publication or have been consolidated with other papers. The bound volumes now number 8,995, an increase of 135 volumes since the last report. The newspaper files are constantly in use; 18,589 persons consulted 34,057 of the volumes of newspapers during the year, as compared with 18,654 persons who used 33,534 volumes during the preceding year. The files of many of the eighteenth century newspapers have been enlarged by photostat copies acquired from the Massachusetts Historical Society. Through the generosity of Mr. Franklin F. Rondy, of Boston, it was possible to complete the Library's file of the Boston Globe.

The total number of volumes in the patent collection now numbers 17,551, the increase for the year being 775 volumes. The countries represented in the accessions were the United States, Great Britain, France, Canada, Australia and New

Zealand. Negotiations have been opened with the German Patent Office to complete the Library's file of the Patentschriften, the receipt of which ceased in 1914. The recorded number of persons using the files of patents during the year was 18,495, as compared with 18,163 during the preceding year. The number of volumes consulted was 110,633, as compared with 107,868 volumes the year previous.

INFORMATION OFFICE, GOVERNMENT DOCUMENT SERVICE  
AND OPEN SHELF ROOM.

The ready reference material of the Information Office continues to assist an increasing public. Tourists make use of the directories and telephone books; business men consult the current-events file and the Chamber of Commerce reports, for the business growth of other cities; those uncertain where to spend a vacation pore over the travel folders. In addition, information agencies maintained by banks, department stores and other institutions constantly refer inquiries to the Library.

Over a thousand clippings and pamphlets have been added during the year to the Vocational Information file, the basis of which is four hundred school and college catalogues. A duplicate set of the catalogues, arranged alphabetically by states, is kept on the shelves of the Information Office. Frequent requests are made for the following: art, secretarial work, business administration, accounting, opportunities for the handicapped, lists of employment agencies and material about evening and extension courses.

The United States Tariff Commission Reports and the Farmers' Bulletins are among the most popular of the government documents. Last year, in addition to the adult users, many school children consulted government material for debates on immigration, child labor, etc.

There has been a substantial increase in the circulation of the Open Shelf Room. Readers are encouraged to return Open Shelf Room books to the department, thus avoiding delay in getting them back into circulation. The taste of the public is carefully studied and all manner of alluring titles are set out to

tempt visitors. Memoirs, travel and plays are most popular, though every division has its adherents. The foreign fiction is eagerly sought. Recently several teachers in the high schools and colleges around Boston have recommended the collection of essays and plays to their pupils as "book report" reading. Retired professional men of the neighborhood use the books constantly. Housewives, who have little time for browsing in libraries, delight in the quick service of the Open Shelf Room.

The courtyard library service during lunch hours was an interesting and successful experiment last summer, and while it did not materially increase circulation, it pleased many people and justifies further trial. The chairs in the courtyard were invariably occupied by interested readers putting a portion of their lunch-hour time to good advantage.

#### PERIODICAL ROOM.

The figures for the year just closed show a gain in attendance and in the use of the bound and unbound numbers of the periodicals. The growth in use has been normal and consistent for a long period of years. If the rooms were larger and were equipped with more modern and convenient furniture there is no doubt that much greater use would be made of their facilities. The interest in the use of periodical literature is manifested by a comparison of material used in 1900 and 1924.

Periodicals used during 1900. Bound 17,267; unbound 16,409. Total 33,676.

Periodicals used during 1924. Bound 49,315; unbound 57,943. Total 107,258.

The aggregate number of persons making use of the room at certain hours in each of two successive years, and the number reported five years ago, are as follows:

#### ATTENDANCE.

AT THE HOURS		10	12	2	4	6	8	9.45
		A.M.	M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
1920-1921	. .	12,372	14,726	22,653	29,801	20,617	24,514	10,413
1923-1924	. .	15,233	17,416	29,172	35,841	22,416	26,531	13,340
1924-1925	. .	16,432	18,526	32,162	36,427	23,841	27,254	13,763

The use of bound and unbound periodicals shows the following increase over last year:

BOUND FILES.

Bound volumes consulted during the year.	1923-1924	1924-1925
Day time (week-days) . . . . .	46,724	49,315
Evening and Sunday . . . . .	19,843	20,762

UNBOUND FILES.

Unbound periodicals consulted during the year:	1923-1924	1924-1925
Day time (week-days) . . . . .	55,516	57,943
Evening and Sunday . . . . .	24,572	25,882

The current periodicals, exclusive of those issued by the State and Federal governments, regularly filed for readers in the Periodical Rooms, number 1,226. In addition there are filed for use by readers in other departments 269 current periodicals especially relating to the fields covered by those departments, as follows:

Fine Arts Division and Music Room . . . . .	135
Teachers' Reference and Children's Room . . . . .	58
Statistical Department . . . . .	49
Ordering Department . . . . .	27
	<hr/>
	269
Periodical Rooms . . . . .	1,226
	<hr/>
Total number of current periodicals . . . . .	1,495

SPECIAL LIBRARIES.

The Special Libraries include all the collections housed on the third floor of the Central Building, and comprise the following divisions:

*Fine Arts Division.* Books, plates, pamphlets and periodicals on the fine arts, including architecture and city planning, sculpture, painting, graphic arts, and the art crafts; the Codman collection on landscape architecture; material on pageants; and the Library's main collection of photographs, prints, art clippings and lantern slides.

*Technology Division.* Books on technology, including engineering in all its branches, manufactures, applied sciences, and works in the fields of pure physics and chemistry added since 1922; also the bound files of technical periodicals.



*Music Division.* The Allen A. Brown reference collection of music and literature of music; also a large collection of music for home use, musical and dramatic periodicals, indexes and scrap-books.

*Barton-Ticknor Division.* Twenty-three special collections restricted to use within the building, including Americana, Anti-Slavery and Civil War material, books on dramatic history, incunabula and publications of famous presses, works on mathematics, Shakespeariana, Spanish literature, books illustrating women's activities, etc. The Library's large collection of maps and the map catalogue are also to be found in this division.

Important changes in the arrangement of the Special Libraries are under consideration. There is great need of a large closed room in which to bring together the rarer books from all parts of the Library. The work of the Music Division is sadly hampered by the congested state of its present room and the necessity of shelving the circulating music in alcoves a long way off from the music room. The reading room for fine arts and technology is overcrowded and alcove space is immediately needed for enlarged open-shelf collections in these classes. Many more cabinets are needed for oversize books, portfolios, art photographs, and process prints for school circulation.

Any adequate rearrangement of the Special Libraries floor is conditional upon an enlargement of the building, furnishing added space for the storage of cabinets. Failing this, it will be necessary to sacrifice a considerable part of the West Gallery, space now devoted to art-school students, conferences and other special library services.

The Fine Arts Division has continued to build up its great collection, purchasing practically all the recent art books of any real value in any of the major languages and a considerable proportion of the very numerous collections of art reproductions issued in portfolio form. All of these accessions have been class-catalogued and shelf-listed, as described in previous reports. In the field of architecture the collection is one of the best in the world and the fulness of the collections in all art subjects puts the Fine Arts Division in the first rank of art libraries anywhere.

The Technology Division has maintained and improved all of the reference tools mentioned in the last report, but no large amount of new constructive work has been undertaken, because illness deprived the division of an assistant during several of the busiest months. Eight years of expert and systematized book selection and replacement, supplemented by scientific shelf classification and analytic class-cataloguing, have made this division a working collection of unique and increasing usefulness to workers and students throughout Greater Boston.

The Music Division received during the year a bequest of \$5,000 from the late Isabella Stewart Gardner, a collection of music by Massachusetts composers from the Massachusetts Federation of Music Clubs, and a collection of phonograph records from the Columbia Phonograph Company. The most important activity of the Assistant-in-charge, Mr. Appel, during the year has been a series of public lectures and piano recitals on the weekly programs of music of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, held in co-operation with the Extension Division of the State Board of Education, in the library lecture hall. Five exhibitions of music were arranged by the Division.

The Barton-Ticknor Division housing the Special Collections of the Library has drawn public attention to its treasures by a series of monthly exhibitions of manuscripts and rare editions of famous authors. For most of these exhibitions, the Assistant-in-charge, Dr. Haraszti, prepared critical descriptions which were published in Boston papers.

From February 1, 1924, to February 1, 1925, the department put on view fifty exhibitions. Of this number twenty-two were of books in the possession of the Library. Fifteen were loan exhibitions, only two of them consisting of books.

The number of books issued for home use from the Special Libraries during the year was 22,836, compared with 23,121 in 1923-1924. The circulation of the first eight months of the fiscal year showed an increase of two per cent over the same period in 1923-24. A decrease of seven per cent in the last four months as compared with the same period of the preceding year, is due to the breakdown of the book-carrier system and accounts for one and one-quarter per cent loss for the year.

During the year, 28,921 pictures and 5,746 lantern slides were issued for use outside the Library. The use of lantern slides shows a gain of three per cent over that of the preceding fiscal year. No comparison can be made for picture circulation figures, because in former years picture issue was estimated, not counted. The total number of photographs and process prints now available for study or circulation is estimated at 69,475, that of lantern slides, at 11,085.

#### WORK WITH CHILDREN.

The Library records show a direct home circulation of 1,402,015 children's books during the year, from the Central Library and branches, a gain of 81,738 volumes over 1923-24. Circulation of books issued to schools through the branches and the Central Deposit Collection is reported as 312,217, making a total circulation of 1,714,232 volumes classed as juvenile. While some of these books may have been issued to adults, the number is far more than offset by the known use by children of books on the adult classification. The percentage of juvenile circulation touches its highest point at the North End Branch, where it reaches 87.6 per cent, and its lowest, with 33 per cent, at West Roxbury, where the adult members of the community make extensive use of the public library resources. In 21 of the 31 branches the juvenile circulation is over 50 per cent of the total. In only two branches does it fall below 45 per cent.

The purchase of books to supply juvenile demands was generous, in relation to the entire appropriation for books. The number of juvenile books purchased was 33,850, at a cost of \$38,862.73. School demands for classroom deposits constitute a heavy drain upon the book stock of certain of the branch libraries. In one branch the circulation to schools reached 26,588 volumes, and in another 19,326 volumes. The question may well be asked whether the branch libraries can lend so many books on deposit and at the same time satisfactorily fill the needs of the children applying for books at the branch library buildings. The Supervisor of Work with Children has had the assistance of a committee composed of two branch librarians and the Chil-

dren's Librarian at the Central Library in the selection of new titles for purchase.

The use of juvenile books has been strengthened during the year by more personal service to the children who frequent different libraries. There has been a growing effort to know children by name and to establish better acquaintance with them, resulting in a more intelligent use of books, in increased sense of the friendly spirit of the library staff, and consequently more orderly conduct.

The Supervisor reports that while organized service to children in the branch libraries is still inchoate, since the institution is not able to attract trained children's librarians, the first definite step urged in her report of last year has been taken, namely: the adoption of a policy working toward the appointment of a competent children's librarian in each major branch.

The appointment of a suitably qualified children's librarian at the North End Branch during the year was a specially fortunate move, since over 87 per cent of the work there is with children, as has been stated, and since at times every member of the force is engaged in supplying their demands. The special worker brought to her position a trained and sympathetic understanding of children, an appreciation of literature and a strong sense of the social function of a library. In several other branches assistants especially suitable but not yet fully qualified as children's librarians have been added to the staff, to the noticeable advantage of the Library in each case.

Classes in children's literature have been regularly held for the benefit of untrained members of the library staff, upon whom falls the task of helping in children's rooms. Twenty assistants have received this instruction from the Supervisor and have shown ability to apply the lessons for the guidance and direction of readers.

The year in the Children's Department has been marked by a fine spirit of co-operation and loyalty on the part of the staff and by a growing perception of the aims and purpose of work with children as a whole.

*Children's Rooms.* The Children's Room at the Central Library has been greatly improved in appearance by painting and

by the removal of one of the circular stairways, which gave room for additional bookcases. It is now possible to place certain useful books close to the charging desk and to provide several cases of books for readers of intermediate school age, who often need the same guidance as the younger children.

Physical conditions have been improved at the Upham's Corner Branch, by the removal of the Children's Room from the unsatisfactory quarters in the ward room to the long unused swimming tank in the basement. This forms, in fact, a novel children's reading room. Lighting, ventilation and space are more abundantly provided than under the old arrangement and the disposition of the floor space permits better control of the children. Among the major branches the crowding of the Children's Room at South Boston is most serious, making any extension of the work there out of the question. As that part of the city affords great opportunities for growth, it is unfortunate that there seems to be no immediate prospect of a new independent library building.

*Story Hour.* Library story hours were held at 66 different places in the course of the year, the largest number of points yet touched in this way. The Supervisor reports that the work was planned on the same line as in other years, and that it met with the same response from children, librarians and teachers. That the stories have served to introduce to children books that they might not otherwise read is evident from the letter of one little girl, who writes as follows: "The nicest part about her stories is that they were just the stories we have seen again and again on the library shelves and never taken them out." Appreciation of the story telling in the schools has been expressed by many teachers and principals who open their doors at all times to the story tellers with a ready welcome and an assurance of hearty belief in this method of introducing books to children.

Summer visits to the Museum of Fine Arts, which are always fruitful in promoting friendships, were made by many of the children in charge of branch librarians. These events are made possible each year by invitation of the Museum, and are eagerly anticipated by those who have experienced the pleasure of previous trips.

*Teachers' Room.* This room grows increasingly to deserve its name. It serves not only a growing number of Boston teachers but many who come from outside the Metropolitan area for the Saturday-morning courses given in the different colleges. The shifting of emphasis on various educational methods shows the trend of current thought. The "Project Method" as a vital subject has given way to "Platoon Schools," to the "Dalton Plan" and to the "Junior High School." Material on educational measurements is in constant demand.

*Publications.* In addition to a third revision and expansion of the "Graded List for Boys and Girls," made in the autumn, the Children's Department contributed bibliographical work on two school lists, "A Course in Citizenship" and "Boston Reading Lists," School documents Nos. 10 and 11 for 1924, in both of which obligations to the Library are acknowledged by the compilers. Material progress has been made toward the completion of an "Approved List of Children's Books for Purchase in the Central Library and Branches."

*Children's Book Week.* Special exhibits of books and pictures, and addresses before different audiences marked this annual occasion. The Supervisor of Work with Children gave addresses as usual during the year, among which was the first radio talk aimed to give larger library publicity. It is noted as the entrance upon a new field of library work, one capable of great expansion.

*Co-operation with Children's Museum.* Exhibits of interesting and attractive material from the Children's Museum have been held at the Central Library and at the Tyler Street, South End and North End Branches during the year. The service is unfortunately limited because of the necessity of providing glass cases to house the various exhibits.

#### THE BRANCH SYSTEM.

The total interior floor space devoted to library uses in the thirty-one branches amounts to about  $3\frac{1}{4}$  acres. Of these branches, 10 are in municipal buildings, 13 occupy rented quar-

ters and 8 have buildings owned by the Library. Entire buildings are occupied by 11 of the branches.

The subsidiary agencies served through the Branch Department include 58 fire-engine houses, 42 institutions of various types, and 199 schools, of which 13 are parochial schools. The total number of agencies through which the Library serves the public is 330, as compared with 320 a year ago. The number of volumes issued on borrowers' cards from the Central Library through the Branch Department was 117,089, as against 107,250 in 1923-24, and 111,070 in 1922-23. These figures show a gain of 9,839 volumes issued during last year as compared with the year previous. The proportion of unsuccessful calls for books was 51.5 per cent, the same as the year before. Of the total unsuccessful requests 57,256 were calls for fiction, as against 52,640 last year. Of the total number of volumes sent out from the Central Library through the branches 91,335 were taken directly from the shelves of the Branch Deposit Collection.

The total circulation of the Branch System for the fiscal year was 2,798,006 volumes, including books received from the Central Library, compared with 2,594,033 the year before, a gain in circulation of 203,973 volumes. Twenty-seven branches gained and four lost in circulation. The greatest gains were at Mattapan, Andrew Square, Warren Street, South Boston, Dorchester, Jeffries Point and Orient Heights; the losses were at Upham's Corner, Parker Hill, Tyler Street and Charlestown.

The number of volumes sent out from the Central Library on deposit to schools, institutions and other agencies was 46,414, as against 42,230 last year and 45,286 in 1922-23. The number of volumes sent to schools from the Central Library and branches was 59,216, compared with 60,913 last year. Of this number 19,393 were sent from the Branch Issue Division, Central Library, as compared with 17,392 the year before. The number of books issued on deposit from the branch libraries, chiefly to schools, was 39,823, compared with 43,521 the year before. The number of individual teachers supplied was 1,312, as against 1,391 in 1923-24.

The number of volumes acquired by purchase for branch use during the year was 54,381; of these 6,556 were placed in the



Branch Deposit Collection, and 47,825 were distributed among the thirty-one branches. These figures represent over eighty per cent of the total number of accessions by purchase for the entire library system, namely 66,483 volumes. The number of books bound for the branch libraries the past year was 26,319, as compared with 24,626 in 1923-24.

*Buildings.* The Allston, Dorchester, Mattapan, Parker Hill, Warren Street and South Boston Branches are in dire need of new quarters. Thirteen branches require extensive repairs and practically every branch needs new equipment of one kind or another. Lighting conditions in many of the branches have been justly criticised. In November last, the Supervisor was instructed to have a study of this subject prepared. A survey, including floor plans of every building, with what is considered adequate lighting marked on the plans, has been made and is now under consideration.

Unsatisfactory buildings and run-down or out-of-date equipment have in no wise daunted the librarians and staffs of the branches. By skilful rearrangement of furniture and careful supervision of heating, lighting, cleaning, and ventilation, the buildings have been made to serve their purpose to the limit of their capacity. At every one of these branches, the hope is cherished that the people of the neighborhood, appreciating good service under difficult conditions, will presently be awakened to the need for better buildings with proper equipment, and will take vigorous action to secure them.

The City Superintendent of Buildings in November allowed the use of the swimming tank in the Municipal Building in which the Upham's Corner Branch is located, for the use of a children's room. Tables and chairs were placed on the floor of the tank and book cases were placed along the walls of the galleries. The arrangement is in every way satisfactory and the tank room has proved admirably adapted for the purpose it is now called upon to fulfill.

*Personnel.* During the past year 16 persons have been in training at the West End, South Boston and East Boston branches. Of these 14 have been encouraged to continue in library work and 2 have been urged to try other employment.



To recommend for appointment a young person who during a period of several months manifests no aptitude for library service is as unfair to the young person as it is to the library. The candidate, however, is given every opportunity to prove her worth, and must appear obviously unfitted for library work before being advised to try something else.

Of the 14 encouraged to remain, 10 have already passed the general paper of the C grade examination, 8 have in addition passed the required language, and 4 have passed the promotional examination for second assistantship.

*Committees.* The committee work proves increasingly valuable. The Committee on Personal Service has presented to the Director a completed scheme for graded branch service and has co-operated in the revision of an important section of the Branch Code Book — "Registration, Fines and Penalties." The Committee on Book Selection has during the year recommended all titles for branch fiction purchased by the Library for branches. The Committee on Registration has followed up the procedure connected with checking up the Code Book. The Committee on Circulation and Publicity notes with satisfaction a net increase in circulation from the branches of 163,306 books during the past year. A new form of advertising has been introduced in libraries which have show windows on the street. There are nine such libraries, and the window space used prior to library occupation for displaying groceries or dry goods is now used for exhibits which advertise books. The Committee on Binding and Repairing reports splendid work throughout the whole system, particularly in the matter of recasing and in labeling the books with white ink.

As a piece of educational extension service, book-review talks have been planned and successfully carried out in Brighton and West Roxbury; in each case book-lists have been prepared by the Branch Catalogue Division. Posters have been prepared for all branches and these are changed the first day of each month. Special lists and also collections of books are displayed with the posters.

Notes from the reports of the branch librarians will be found on pages 78-86 of the Appendix.

## LECTURES AND EXHIBITIONS.

The twenty-seventh free public library course offered seventy-one lectures, distributed as follows: travel 19, literature 15, music 14, art 8, nature (birds, gardens), biography and history, and civic subjects, 4 each. The attendance has been on the whole larger than usual, and at only a very few lectures has the hall failed to be filled. In three cases it has been found necessary to turn away large numbers from the doors, and one lecture had to be given three times. It has, unfortunately, been necessary to make a considerable number of substitutions at short notice, on account of the unavoidable absence of the listed lecturers.

In addition to the above course, the Ruskin Club held its bi-monthly meetings on Monday afternoons; various organizations held open meetings in the hall; the Community Service Incorporated, co-operating with the Public Celebrations Committee of the City, gave a Christmas pageant which was artistically and intrinsically worth while; and there were several concerts given during Music Week, under the auspices of the Boston Music Week Committee. The Division of University Extension arranged courses for every evening of the week, except Thursday, for several courses during the day, and for short courses on opera and in French. The innovation of the year was a course of lectures on the programs of the Symphony Orchestra, given in advance of the concert, which proved to be popular. The hall was used five hundred and twelve times in thirty-seven weeks.

There were several long exhibitions in the Fine Arts Exhibition Room and short ones shown in connection with lectures given in the free library course. Those that appealed most to the public were the original water-colors by Pedro Subercaseaux illustrating the life of St. Francis of Assisi; the Fifty Books of 1924 selected by the American Institute of Graphic Arts; the prize competition posters for the *House Beautiful*, and the reproductions of paintings by John Singer Sargent.

In the Barton-Ticknor Room there were monthly exhibitions of manuscripts, first editions and prints arranged in connection with birth-anniversaries of authors and anniversaries of historical events.

The lists of lectures and public exhibitions held at the Central Library from the fall of 1924 through the spring of 1925 may be found on pages 68-73 of the Appendix.

#### STAFF INSTRUCTION.

After a number of years of experiment, plans for instruction of the staff are being carried on with a considerable degree of assurance. Four regular courses are now in progress, each of which contributes something definite to the equipment of those assistants who are able to attend them. Professor Robert E. Rogers, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, is giving his fourth course in the Library, under the auspices of the Massachusetts Division of University Extension, to a large and interested class, in which twenty-six library employees are enrolled. His subject this year is the "Great Classics of Literature from the Earliest Days to the Renaissance." This course will probably be supplemented next year by a similar one covering the masterpieces of the past four centuries. Miss Eleanor M. Colleton is continuing her instruction in Italian to thirteen library employees who are making ready for an examination in that language. Miss Alice M. Jordan is giving a year-course in work with children to thirteen library assistants and Mr. Frank H. Chase is giving a course, also extending over the year, in general history for reference assistants, in which twenty-three are enrolled. The attempt is being made to give all of these courses solid value for library purposes and to hold the students down to specific assignments each week. The vision of a regular scheme of training for assistants in this Library is each year becoming clearer.

#### THE BINDERY AND PRINTING DEPARTMENTS.

Despite the fact that the Bindery has vacancies unfilled, the work accomplished during the year has been the largest in the history of the department. The total of bound volumes of all types was 45,994. In addition, 9,295 new volumes were re-cased before being put in circulation.

The purchase of an oversewing machine has more than justified its cost, by making possible an increased output with a diminished sewing force. To add further to the efficiency of the Bindery the following machinery is much needed: a roller backer to lessen the work of hand-backing, a rotary board shears for cutting board by power, a rounding machine, which is rendered quite necessary in order to handle the book-output of the over-sewing machine, and a gluing machine to eliminate gluing by hand in cover making. With these additions it is anticipated that the department can increase its output materially without adding to its staff.

In the Printing Department, as no considerable additions have been made to the plant since 1918 and no modernization since 1912, it became necessary, in order to maintain present-day standards of mechanical efficiency, to undertake extensive renewals. Their need was carefully studied during the summer and early fall and contracts were drawn and signed late in the year which admitted of distributing the cost of the changes through a series of appropriations. The first change to be affected under the plan consisted in the substitution for the old stop-cylinder press, which had done duty for twenty-nine years, of a modern and somewhat larger two-revolution press equipped with an automatic feeder; and of the addition of a similarly equipped folding machine. The installation was made just before the end of the fiscal year, and it is expected that further changes will be carried out during the year to come.

On page 68 of the Appendix will be found the usual statistics for the Bindery and Printing Departments.

#### RETIREMENTS.

During the fiscal year, the following persons were retired under the Boston Retirement System.

*Catalogue and Shelf Department:* Dora L. Cutler, cataloguer (retired February 29), entered service 1887; Ida W. Gould, cataloguer (retired August 31, voluntary), entered service 1884; William G. T. Roffe, first assistant in charge Shelf Department (retired February 29), entered service 1881; Mary

H. Rollins, editor of Library Publications (retired March 31, voluntary), entered service 1886. *Special Libraries Department*: Walter Rowlands, first assistant in charge of Fine Arts Division (retired January 31), entered service 1901. *Engineer and Janitor Department*: Henry Niederauer, Chief Engineer (retired February 29), entered service 1894; Walter M. Leighton, night watchman (retired March 31, disability), entered service 1911. *Bindery Department*: Zenobia Felton, sewer (retired December 31), entered service 1909; Therese A. Masterson, assistant (retired April 31, disability), entered service 1907; John F. Murphy, forwarder (retired July 31, disability), entered service 1883; Ellen F. Potts, forewoman (retired December 31, voluntary), entered service 1892; William A. Wendall, forwarder (retired July 31, voluntary), entered service 1909. *Fellows Athenæum Branch*: Sarah W. Griggs, assistant (retired December 31), entered service 1886.

With regret is noted the death while in service, on April 5, 1924, of Alice M. Morris, sewer, of the Bindery Department, employed since 1909.

#### CONCLUSION.

There is no limit to the benefits which a free public library, adequately supported, can render to the community which it serves through the rich stores of information, entertainment and inspiration available in the books upon its shelves. Under wise management its public service is restricted only by the amount of its funds — the funds necessary for the purchase of books, for their housing and proper care, for the making of catalogues, indexes and other bibliographic aids in their use, and for attracting to its staff men and women whose training and experience have equipped them for giving to the public the widest and wisest assistance in making use of library material.

If, finally, the Library is to function more fully in its aid to young men and women, no longer in school, and to adults who wish to broaden their knowledge and culture through systematic reading, means must be found for the employment of specially trained advisers who will give wise and sympathetic help to in-

dividual students and will otherwise aid in the development of that work of adult education which is the outstanding task now confronting this institution, with the other public libraries of America.

It is with satisfaction that I record my acknowledgment of the faithful service rendered by the officials of the Library and the employees generally, and my appreciation of their loyal and efficient co-operation throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES F. D. BELDEN,  
*Director.*

## APPENDIX.

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### TABLES OF CENTRAL AND BRANCH CIRCULATION.

	1919-20	1920-21	1921-22	1922-23	1923-24	1924-25
Central Library .	507,038	551,190	591,640	590,655	576,997	623,024
BRANCHES:						
Allston .	43,492	41,369	47,328	53,598	57,705	60,358
Andrew Square	29,726	30,761	33,944	33,413	51,991	68,196
Boylston Station	40,758	44,829	50,033	55,672	62,340	64,871
Brighton .	71,720	75,273	79,397	83,238	87,672	92,702
Charlestown .	80,900	91,455	98,780	101,140	99,035	98,433
City Point .	33,784	34,510	30,300	38,381	43,277	47,441
Codman Square	85,246	91,721	101,792	103,810	113,529	114,950
Dorchester .	68,173	68,873	70,396	67,810	75,608	88,628
Dor. Lower Mills	18,308	18,040	17,765	17,577	25,801	27,259
East Boston .	115,062	111,813	120,234	120,993	125,968	128,771
Faneuil .	22,626	24,001	24,913	24,944	27,004	30,443
*Fellowes Athen.	74,024	80,469	80,933	79,125	71,673	76,007
Hyde Park .	78,444	79,592	80,855	82,498	89,716	95,334
Jamaica Plain .	55,771	58,228	60,507	59,970	64,022	68,630
Jeffries Point .	.....	.....	10,309	35,925	40,857	52,020
Mattapan .	16,351	16,439	20,499	20,497	27,699	48,789
Mount Bowdoin	68,177	73,620	80,492	83,376	98,961	107,679
Mount Pleasant	48,098	49,949	57,562	53,846	52,977	53,953
Neponset .	19,433	22,630	28,789	33,262	40,353	41,466
North End .	59,676	69,846	85,187	96,359	107,329	117,075
Orient Heights .	21,133	21,934	27,970	34,240	30,580	40,605
Parker Hill .	52,846	48,891	49,209	49,459	44,081	37,038
Roslindale .	66,798	73,310	80,879	82,597	89,336	94,888
Roxbury Crossing	43,232	47,030	57,609	55,911	57,869	67,143
South Boston .	100,602	104,979	121,194	124,809	139,173	152,799
South End .	94,386	99,751	97,403	99,543	111,682	117,845
Tyler Street .	15,587	31,343	40,039	39,973	42,270	37,321
Upham's Corner	111,186	113,846	119,375	120,257	109,731	95,975
Warren Street .	88,720	94,991	104,412	108,665	122,159	136,981
West End .	114,162	123,137	136,431	142,470	154,267	157,321
West Roxbury .	55,273	54,956	66,470	74,970	81,199	88,249
Total .	2,300,732	2,448,776	2,672,646	2,768,984	2,922,861	3,132,194

\* Roxbury Branch renamed Fellowes Athenaeum Branch in 1923.

The net gains and losses in circulation are presented, apart from the totals, in the following form:

	VOLUMES.
1919-20 gain over preceding year . . . . .	272,679
1920-21 gain over preceding year . . . . .	148,044
1921-22 gain over preceding year . . . . .	223,870
1922-23 gain over preceding year . . . . .	96,338
1923-24 gain over preceding year . . . . .	153,877
1924-25 gain over preceding year . . . . .	209,333

### USE OF BOOKS.

#### CIRCULATION FROM CENTRAL BY MONTHS.

	HOME USE DIRECT.	HOME USE THROUGH BRANCH DEPT.	SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS THROUGH BRANCH DEPT.	TOTALS.
February, 1924 . . . . .	35,125	13,611	15,551	64,287
March, " . . . . .	34,823	12,690	18,860	66,373
April, " . . . . .	33,766	12,427	20,280	66,473
May, " . . . . .	28,136	9,578	19,750	57,464
June, " . . . . .	24,649	8,041	19,640	52,330
July, " . . . . .	18,187	5,891	5,323	29,401
August, " . . . . .	19,641	6,033	4,465	30,139
September, " . . . . .	19,440	5,764	4,475	29,679
October, " . . . . .	25,848	7,918	11,310	45,076
November, " . . . . .	33,375	12,295	15,175	60,845
December, " . . . . .	32,099	12,405	17,933	62,437
January, 1925 . . . . .	29,099	10,436	18,985	58,520
<b>Totals . . . . .</b>	<b>334,188</b>	<b>117,089</b>	<b>171,747</b>	<b>623,024</b>

#### DISTRIBUTION OF TOTAL CIRCULATION.

	HOME USE.	SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS.	TOTAL.
<b>CENTRAL LIBRARY:</b>			
a. Direct . . . . .	334,188		
b. Through Branches . . . . .	117,089		
c. Schools and Institutions through Branch Department . . . . .		171,747	623,024
<b>BRANCHES:</b>			
Allston . . . . .	60,358	. . . . .	60,358
Andrew Square . . . . .	68,196	. . . . .	68,196
Boylston Station . . . . .	64,141	730	64,871
Brighton . . . . .	54,679	38,023	92,702
Charlestown . . . . .	86,832	11,601	98,433
City Point . . . . .	47,441	. . . . .	47,441
Codman Square . . . . .	106,599	8,351	114,950
Dorchester . . . . .	71,759	16,869	88,628
Dorchester Lower Mills . . . . .	27,162	97	27,259
East Boston . . . . .	109,666	19,105	128,771
<b>Carried forward . . . . .</b>	<b>696,833</b>	<b>94,776</b>	<b>791,609</b>



	HOME USE.	SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS.	TOTAL.
<i>Brought forward</i> . . . . .	696,833	94,776	791,609
Faneuil . . . . .	30,443	.....	30,443
Fellowes Athenaeum . . . . .	60,048	15,959	76,007
Hyde Park . . . . .	85,017	10,317	95,334
Jamaica Plain . . . . .	57,970	10,660	68,630
Jeffries Point . . . . .	52,020	.....	52,020
Mattapan . . . . .	48,789	.....	48,789
Mount Bowdoin . . . . .	105,243	2,436	107,679
Mount Pleasant . . . . .	53,953	.....	53,953
Neponset . . . . .	41,466	.....	41,466
North End . . . . .	115,396	1,679	117,075
Orient Heights . . . . .	40,337	268	40,605
Parker Hill . . . . .	37,038	.....	37,038
Roslindale . . . . .	86,238	8,650	94,888
Roxbury Crossing . . . . .	66,383	760	67,143
South Boston . . . . .	132,573	20,226	152,799
South End . . . . .	100,677	17,168	117,845
Tyler Street . . . . .	37,261	60	37,321
Upham's Corner . . . . .	92,812	3,163	95,975
Warren Street . . . . .	133,494	3,487	136,981
West End . . . . .	138,137	19,184	157,321
West Roxbury . . . . .	71,649	16,600	88,249
	<hr/> 2,283,777	<hr/> 225,393	<hr/> 2,509,170

These figures are condensed into the following:

*Books Lent for Home Use, including Circulation through  
Schools and Institutions.*

From Central Library (including Central Library books issued through the Branches) . . . . .	623,024
From Branches (excluding books received from Central Library) . . . . .	2,509,170
Total . . . . .	<hr/> 3,132,194

COMPARATIVE.	1923-24.	1924-25.
Central Library circulation (excluding schools and institutions):		
Direct home use . . . . .	328,828	334,188
Through Branches . . . . .	107,250	117,089
	<hr/> 436,078	<hr/> 451,277
Branch Department circulation (ex- cluding schools and institutions):		
Direct home use . . . . .	2,135,699	2,283,777
Schools and institutions circulation (in- cluding books from Central through the Branch system) . . . . .	351,084	397,140
	<hr/> 2,922,861	<hr/> 3,132,194

Under the inter-library loan system with other libraries the following use of books for the purpose of serious research is shown for two successive years:

	1923-24.	1924-25.
Volumes lent from this Library to other libraries in Massachusetts	1,596	1,770
Lent to libraries outside of Massachusetts . . . . .	246	257
Totals . . . . .	<u>1,842</u>	<u>2,027</u>
Applications refused:		
From libraries in Massachusetts . . . . .	462	342
From libraries outside of Massachusetts . . . . .	92	82
Totals . . . . .	<u>554</u>	<u>424</u>
Borrowed from other libraries for use here . . . . .	35	20

The classified "home-use" circulation of the branches was as follows, for two successive years:

	1923-24.		1924-25.	
	VOLUMES.	PERCENTAGE.	VOLUMES.	PERCENTAGE.
Fiction for adults . . . . .	665,125	31.2	713,320	31
Non-fiction for adults . . . . .	218,105	10.2	260,051	11
Juvenile fiction . . . . .	769,182	36.1	841,116	37
Juvenile non-fiction . . . . .	477,813	22.4	488,310	21

At the Central Library the classified "home-use" circulation shows the following percentages:

	1923-24	1924-25
	PERCENTAGES.	PERCENTAGES.
Fiction . . . . .	47.9	48.3
Non-fiction . . . . .	52.1	51.7

### BOOK ACCESSIONS.

#### BOOKS ACQUIRED BY PURCHASE. .

	1923-24.	1924-25.
For the Central Library:		
From City appropriation . . . . .	6,805	8,328
From trust funds income . . . . .	4,032	3,774
	<u>10,837</u>	<u>12,102</u>
For branches:		
From City appropriation . . . . .	50,147	54,289
From trust funds income . . . . .	4	92
	<u>50,151</u>	<u>54,381</u>
By Fellowes Athenaeum (for Fellowes Athenaeum Branch) . . . . .	1,178	832
Totals . . . . .	<u>62,166</u>	<u>67,315</u>

Of the 842 volumes acquired by the Fellowes Athenaeum during the past year, 832 were purchases, 8 were gifts, and 2 were of periodicals bound.

The following statement includes the accessions by purchase combined with books received by gift or otherwise:

	CENTRAL.	BRANCHES.	TOTAL VOLUMES.
Accessions by purchase (including 832 volumes by Fellowes Athenaeum) . . . . .	12,102	55,213	67,315
Accessions by gift (including 8 volumes for Fellowes Athenaeum) . . . . .	10,024	1,807	11,831
Accessions by Statistical Department . . . . .	172	....	172
Accessions by exchange . . . . .	54	....	54
Accessions by periodicals bound (including 2 for Fellowes Athenaeum) . . . . .	2,062	139	2,201
Accessions of newspapers bound . . . . .	114	....	114
	<u>24,528</u>	<u>57,159</u>	<u>81,687</u>

#### THE CATALOGUE.

	VOLS. AND PARTS.	TITLES.	VOLS. AND PARTS.	TITLES.
	1923-24.		1924-25.	
Catalogued (new):				
Central Library Catalogue . . . . .	22,172	14,471	24,135	13,608
Serials . . . . .	4,528	....	4,685	....
Branches . . . . .	48,616	42,113	53,301	44,321
Recatalogued . . . . .	14,791	7,709	19,007	15,891
Totals . . . . .	<u>90,107</u>	<u>64,293</u>	<u>101,128</u>	<u>73,820</u>

#### SHELF DEPARTMENT.

The number of volumes shelved and thus made available for public use, taken from the report of the Shelf Department, is

Placed on the Central Library shelves during the year:	
General collection, new books (including continuations) . . . . .	22,962
Special collections, new books and transfers . . . . .	1,800
Books reported lost or missing in previous years, but now found, transfers from branches, etc. . . . .	2,084
	<u>26,846</u>
Removed from Central Library shelves during the year:	
Books reported lost or missing, condemned copies not yet replaced, transfers, etc. . . . .	13,887
Net gain, Central Library . . . . .	12,959
Net gain at branches . . . . .	12,264
Net gain, entire library system . . . . .	<u>25,223</u>

The total number of volumes available for public use at the end of each year since the formation of the Library is shown in the following statement:

1852-53 . . . . .	9,688	1889 . . . . .	520,508
1853-54 . . . . .	16,221	1890 . . . . .	536,027
1854-55 . . . . .	22,617	1891 . . . . .	556,283
1855-56 . . . . .	28,080	1892 . . . . .	576,237
1856-57 . . . . .	34,896	1893 . . . . .	597,152
1857-58 . . . . .	70,851	1894 . . . . .	610,375
1858-59 . . . . .	78,043	1895 . . . . .	628,297
1859-60 . . . . .	85,031	1896-97 . . . . .	663,763
1860-61 . . . . .	97,386	1897-98 . . . . .	698,888
1861-62 . . . . .	105,034	1898-99 . . . . .	716,050
1862-63 . . . . .	110,563	1899-1900 . . . . .	746,383
1863-64 . . . . .	116,934	1900-01 . . . . .	781,377
1864-65 . . . . .	123,016	1901-02 . . . . .	812,264
1865-66 . . . . .	130,678	1902-03 . . . . .	835,904
1866-67 . . . . .	136,080	1903-04 . . . . .	848,884
1867-68 . . . . .	144,092	1904-05 . . . . .	871,050
1868-69 . . . . .	152,796	1905-06 . . . . .	878,933
1869-70 . . . . .	160,573	1906-07 . . . . .	903,349
1870-71 . . . . .	179,250	1907-08 . . . . .	922,348
1871-72 . . . . .	192,958	1908-09 . . . . .	941,024
1872-73 . . . . .	209,456	1909-10 . . . . .	961,522
1873-74 . . . . .	260,550	1910-11 . . . . .	987,268
1874-75 . . . . .	276,918	1911-12 . . . . .	1,006,717
1875-76 . . . . .	297,873	1912-13 . . . . .	1,049,011
1876-77 . . . . .	312,010	1913-14 . . . . .	1,067,103
1877-78 . . . . .	345,734	1914-15 . . . . .	1,098,702
1878-79 . . . . .	360,963	1915-16 . . . . .	1,121,747
1879-80 . . . . .	377,225	1916-17 . . . . .	1,139,682
1880-81 . . . . .	390,982	1917-18 . . . . .	1,157,326
1881-82 . . . . .	404,221	1918-19 . . . . .	1,173,695
1882-83 . . . . .	422,116	1919-20 . . . . .	1,197,498
1883-84 . . . . .	438,594	1920-21 . . . . .	1,224,510
1884-85 . . . . .	453,947	1921-22 . . . . .	1,258,211
1885 . . . . .	460,993	1922-23 . . . . .	1,284,094
1886 . . . . .	479,421	1923-24 . . . . .	1,308,041
1887 . . . . .	492,956	1924-25 . . . . .	1,333,264
1888 . . . . .	505,872		

Volumes in entire library system . . . . .	1,333,264
Volumes in the branches . . . . .	346,863

These volumes are located as follows:

Central Library . . . . .	986,401	Dorchester Lower Mills . . . . .	2,226
Allston . . . . .	4,745	East Boston . . . . .	21,074
Andrew Square . . . . .	4,854	Faneuil . . . . .	4,634
Boylston Station . . . . .	5,287	Fellowes Athenaeum . . . . .	36,370
Brighton . . . . .	18,320	Hyde Park . . . . .	33,447
Charlestown . . . . .	14,356	Jamaica Plain . . . . .	17,589
City Point . . . . .	7,219	Jeffries Point . . . . .	3,089
Codman Square . . . . .	9,119	Mattapan . . . . .	3,331
Dorchester . . . . .	14,251	Mount Bowdoin . . . . .	8,670

Mount Pleasant . . .	5,827	South Boston . . .	18,739
Neponset . . .	3,590	South End . . .	13,955
North End . . .	10,449	Tyler Street . . .	5,086
Orient Heights . . .	4,136	Upham's Corner . . .	13,063
Parker Hill . . .	3,338	Warren Street . . .	9,454
Roslindale . . .	10,752	West End . . .	20,102
Roxbury Crossing . . .	5,809	West Roxbury . . .	13,982

### THE BINDERY.

	1923-24.	1924-25.
Number of volumes bound in various styles . . . . .	52,483	55,289
Magazines stitched . . . . .	237	216
Volumes repaired . . . . .	2,245	3,046
Volumes guarded . . . . .	1,941	1,312
Maps mounted . . . . .	65	35
Photographs and engravings, etc., mounted . . . . .	3,295	3,019
Library publications folded, stitched and trimmed . . . . .	157,161	75,278

### THE PRINTING DEPARTMENT.

	1923-24.	1924-25.
Requisitions received and filled . . . . .	294	181
Card Catalogue (Central Library):		
Titles exclusive of automatic reprint . . . . .	13,962	16,470
Cards finished (exclusive of extras) . . . . .	203,109	188,328
Card Catalogue (Branches):		
Titles (Printing Department count) . . . . .	704	696
Cards finished (exclusive of extras) . . . . .	41,536	31,218
Signs . . . . .	2,518	3,862
Blank forms (numbered series) . . . . .	3,751,465	4,016,630
Forms, circulars and sundries (outside numbered series) . . . . .	83,446	80,225
Catalogues and pamphlets . . . . .	157,691	51,750

### THE LECTURES OF 1924-1925.

All lectures, except those marked with an asterisk (\*) were illustrated with lantern slides.

1924

- Oct. 6. \*Our Selves and Our Ideals. Miss Lilian Whiting. (Ruskin Club.)
- Oct. 9. Friendly Visiting with the Birds. Rev. Manly Bacon Townsend.
- Oct. 12. \*The Origin of Species in Modern Poetry. Grant H. Code. (New England Poetry Club Course.)
- Oct. 16. Alaska: the Promised Land. Mrs. Alice Howland Macomber.

- Oct. 19. \*Recent American Folk Plays: "Sun-Up," "Hell-Bent for Heaven," etc. Robert E. Rogers, A.M. (Drama League Course.)
- Oct. 23. The Nipponese: a Story of Present Day Japan. John C. Bowker, F.R.G.S.
- Oct. 26. Historic Wales: its People and its Scenery. Mrs. Nellie E. Packard.
- Oct. 27. The National Parks of the United States. Kenneth Darnen. (Ruskin Club.)
- Oct. 30. Wordsworth and the Lake Country. Everett L. Getchell.
- Nov. 1. \*The Requirements of the Great Poet. Charles Hammond Gibson. (American Literary Association.)
- Nov. 2. \*Tragedy and Comedy of Charles Dickens. Francis Henry Wade, M.D.
- Nov. 6. A Rocky Mountain Hike: Nine Thousand Miles through the Beauty and Bigness of America. Rev. Charles W. Casson. (Field and Forest Club Course.)  
Repeated by request on Jan. 8 and Feb. 15, at eight o'clock.
- Nov. 9. \*The Enjoyment of Art. Walter Sargent.
- Nov. 9. \*The Ancestral Name, Ranulf. William A. Randall.
- Nov. 10. \*The British Poets from the Seventeenth to the Nineteenth Century. Charles Hammond Gibson. (Ruskin Club.)
- Nov. 13. The Anniversary of Robert Louis Stevenson. Guy Richardson.
- Nov. 16. \*Reading of Shakespeare's "Hamlet." George F. Pearson.
- Nov. 20. The Glory of England: Her Cathedrals and Scenic Beauty. Frederick Parsons, F.R.S.A.
- Nov. 22. \*The Song Recital. Henry Gideon, A.M.
- Nov. 23. \*Reading of Shakespeare's "King Henry IV, Part II." By members of local Shakespeare Clubs, under the direction of Mrs. Frederick H. Briggs. (Drama League Course.)
- Nov. 24. \*Ruskin's Museums. Mrs. May Smith Dean. (Ruskin Club.)
- Nov. 30. \*A Modern Opera: Pfitzner's "Palestrina." Otto G. T. Straub.
- Nov. 30. The Pueblo Indians: Yesterday and To-day. George H. Browne.
- Dec. 4. Florence: the City of the Lily. Martha A. S. Shannon.
- Dec. 7. Public Celebrations. J. Philip O'Connell.
- Dec. 7. \*Music of the Roman Catholic Church. Henry Gideon, A.M.
- Dec. 8. \*Ruskin's Message to Youth and the Twentieth Amendment. Rev. Davis Wasgatt Clark. (Ruskin Club.)
- Dec. 11. Days with the Birds. Mrs. James L. Tryon. (Field and Forest Club Course.)

- Dec. 13. \*The Growth of Freedom in English Verse Technique. Helen Archibald Clarke. (American Literary Association.)
- Dec. 14. \*Music in the Life of the World: Story of the Carol. Mme. Beale Morey.
- Dec. 15. \*Christmas in Music and Pageantry. Richard G. Appel.
- Dec. 18. How the Dutch do it: Housing Problems and Port Development. Frank A. Bourne, S.M., A.I.A.
- Dec. 20. \*The Nativity Cycle of York Mystery Plays. Public Celebrations Committee and Boston Community Service, Inc.
- Dec. 21. \*Carols and Chansons of Christmas. Henry Gideon, A.M.
- Dec. 21. \*Reading: "The Christmas Carol." Walter Bradley Tripp. (Auspices Dickens Fellowship.)
- Dec. 22. \*Music, arranged by Mrs. Arthur Howard Davison. The Christmas Message, Mrs. Minnie Meserve Soule. (Ruskin Club.)
- Dec. 28. Boston Architecture: Past and Present. Frank Chouteau Brown.

1925

- Jan. 4. \*The Marvel and Glory of Glass; Ancient and Modern. Mrs. Walter G. Dennison.
- Jan. 8. A Rocky Mountain Hike: Nine Thousand Miles through the Beauty and Bigness of America. Rev. Charles W. Casson. (Repeated by request.)
- Jan. 11. \*Swedish Male Harmony Chorus. Carl Hulton, Director.
- Jan. 12. \*What's What in Books. John Clair Minot. (Ruskin Club.)
- Jan. 15. Mediaeval Pilgrimages and Art. Arthur Kingsley Porter, B.F.A.
- Jan. 17. \*The Immutable Laws of Great Poetry. E. Charlton Black, LL.D. (American Literary Association.)
- Jan. 18. The Appreciation of Greek Sculpture. Clarence Kennedy, A.M.
- Jan. 22. Cycling through Merrie England in Pre-War Days. Arthur D. Ropes.
- Jan. 25. Our New Comedy and American Family Life. Albert Hatton Gilmer, A.M. (Drama League Course.)
- Jan. 26. The Wonderland of America. Mrs. Arthur Dudley Ropes. (Ruskin Club.)
- Jan. 29. Snaring Bird Songs. Charles C. Gorst.
- Feb. 1. \*A Splendid Rebel: Life and Times of Patrick Henry. Henry Lawrence Southwick.
- Feb. 5. Peasant and Decorative Arts of Czecho-Slovakia. Dr. Boris Morkovin.
- Feb. 8. \*New New England Poets. Thomas A. Watson. (New England Poetry Club Course.)

- Feb. 9. \*Anniversary Observance of John Ruskin's Birth. Rev. Harold E. B. Speight. (Ruskin Club.)
- Feb. 11. \*The String Quartet as a Musical Form. Leo R. Lewis.
- Feb. 12. The Land of the Backward Rolling River: Chekiang Province, including its Capital, Hangchow, the Heavenly. William Dean Goddard, A.M. (Field and Forest Club Course.)
- Feb. 15. \*Modern French Music. Edward Burlingame Hill.
- Feb. 15. A Rocky Mountain Hike: Nine Thousand Miles through the Beauty and Bigness of America. Rev. Charles W. Casson. (Repeated by request.)
- Feb. 16. \*Americanization: its Ideals. Two addresses: The Value of Law and its Observance. Hon. Sanford Bates. The Development of the True Citizen. Dr. Charles A. Coburn. (Ruskin Club.)
- Feb. 19. Under Italian skies. Mrs. Arthur D. Ropes.
- Feb. 22. \*Worthwhile Patriotism. Hon. Michael J. Murray.
- Feb. 26. Whaling and its Methods. Arthur E. Watson.
- Mar. 1. Boston, the Convention City. Charles J. Fox.
- Mar. 1. \*The Program of the Flonzaley Quartet. Leo R. Lewis.
- Mar. 5. Killarney: its Lakes and Legends. Rev. William M. Stinson, S.J.
- Mar. 8. \*Treasures of the Theatre Collection in the Harvard University Library. Frank W. C. Hersey, A.M. (Drama League Course.)
- Mar. 9. Days of Romance in Old Spain. Mrs. James Frederick Hopkins. (Ruskin Club.)
- Mar. 12. Tramps about the Presidentials. Milton E. MacGregor. (Field and Forest Club Course.)
- Mar. 15. \*The Magic of Words. Horace G. Wadlin, Litt.D.
- Mar. 15. The Art of Printing as shown in Fifty Books of 1924. John Coolidge Hurd.
- Mar. 19. Earth Changes, illustrated by the Geology of Boston. Harvey Woodburn Shimer, Ph.D.
- Mar. 22. Palestine: the Homeland of the Master. Anton Hanania.
- Mar. 23. \*The Value of Critical Literature. Mr. Henry A. Higgins. (Ruskin Club.)
- Mar. 26. Along Dutch Waterways. Mrs. James Frederick Hopkins.
- Mar. 29. \*The Music of the Bible. Charles N. Lanphere.
- Apr. 2. New England Birds and Wild Flowers. Mrs. Harriet U. Goode.
- Apr. 5. \*Footlight Orchestra. Thompson Stone, Director.
- Apr. 9. English Gardens. Robert N. Cram, B.L.A.
- Apr. 12. \*Brahm's Requiem: an exposition. Leo R. Lewis.



- Apr. 13. Ruskin and Agriculture Today. Dr. Arthur H. Gilbert.  
(Ruskin Club.)
- Apr. 16. Architecture in the United States in the last Ten Years. J.  
Randolph Coolidge, Jr.
- Apr. 19. The Lexington and Concord Fights. Thomas G. Frothing-  
ham.
- Apr. 27. Author's Reading. Rev. Henry Hallam Saunderson, D.D.  
(Ruskin Club.)
- May 7. "The Triumph of Religion," a lecture on the decorations by  
John Singer Sargent in the Public Library. Dr. Henry  
Hallam Saunderson.
- May 7. \*Lincoln House Orchestra. Jacques Hoffman, Conductor.
- May 10. \*Concert by Myrtle Jordan. Carl Safford, accompanist.
- May 10. \*Peabody House Orchestra. Russell Cook, Conductor.
- May 11. \*Annual Meeting of the Ruskin Club.
- May 14. "The Triumph of Religion." Rev. Henry Hallam Saun-  
derson. (Repeated by request.)

#### PUBLIC EXHIBITIONS, 1924-1925.

##### 1924

- May Robert Browning. First editions and manuscripts.  
Landmarks in Music, 1630-1924.  
Famous bridges.  
Recent accessions in fine arts.  
Victor Herbert, 1859-1924.
- June Bunker Hill. Manuscripts, etc.  
Foreign travel posters.  
Evolution of church music.  
Old Boston and Massachusetts.  
Junior Red Cross poster competition.
- July Tennyson centenary. Manuscripts and first editions.  
Old Boston and Massachusetts.
- Aug. Civil War pictures.  
William Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor Coleridge.
- Sept. History of the art of printing.
- Oct. Wordsworth, Coleridge and Stevenson.  
Recent accessions on decorative art.  
Columbus Day. Books and portraits.  
Alaska.  
Japan.  
Wales.
- Nov. Robert Louis Stevenson. First editions.  
Illuminated manuscripts.  
Original etchings by Anton Schutz.

- English cathedrals and abbeys.  
Artistic bookbindings.
- Dec.** Puvis de Chavannes.  
American Indians. Curtis photographs.  
American Indians. McClintock photographs.  
Fragments of European architecture. Water-colors by F. A. Bourne.  
Life of St. Francis of Assisi. Original water-colors by Subercaseaux.
- Jan.** Edgar Allan Poe. Manuscripts and first editions.  
Life of St. Joan of Arc.  
Greek sculpture. Photographs by Prof. Clarence Kennedy.  
Portolan Atlas.
- Feb.** Photographs of stage settings, loaned by the Theatre Arts Magazine.  
Charles Dickens. First editions and manuscripts.  
Portolan Atlas.  
Henry W. Longfellow. First editions and manuscripts.  
Photographs of Shakespearian Costume Ball.  
"House Beautiful" Cover designs, loaned by the House Beautiful Publishing Company.
- Mar.** Medici and Seeman color prints.  
"Fifty Books of 1924," selected by American Institute of Graphic Arts, and exhibited by Society of Printers of Boston.
- Apr.** Nathaniel Bowditch memorial exhibition.  
"Be Kind to Animals Week" prize posters.  
Battle of Lexington. Manuscripts and prints.  
John Singer Sargent memorial exhibition.
- May** Old-Time baseball players (McGreevy Collection).  
Examples of the work of the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood.  
William Ellery Channing.

#### SELECTED LIST OF GIFTS AND GIVERS.

- The American Printer**, New York City. Thirty photographs, color prints, etc., contributed to the Franklin Bi-Centennial Number of *The American Printer*.
- Bassett, Abbot**, Newtonville. Fifty-five volumes, publications of the League of American Wheelmen.
- The Bibliophile Society**, through Mr. H. H. Harper. "The Yankee abroad." Unpublished poem, by Eugene Field, reproduced in manuscript facsimile following the printed version, and two volumes of the Annual Report of the Bibliophile Society to complete the Library file, 1920, 1923.

- Boston Society of Civil Engineers. *Engineering News*, 1877-1884, 1887. (Lacking in the Library file); Boydell's illustrations of the dramatic works of Shakespeare, London (1798) and Ancient carriages, containing 25 plates.
- Bradford, Gamaliel, Wellesley Hills. *The soul of Samuel Pepys*. By Gamaliel Bradford. Boston. 1924.
- Bare souls. By Gamaliel Bradford. New York. 1924.
- British Museum, London. *The Lindisfarne Gospels* . . . Three plates in colour and thirty-six in monochrome from Cotton MS. Nero D. IV in the British Museum, with pages from two related manuscripts. With introduction by Eric George Millar. London. 1923.
- Chandburi, Prince of, Bangkok, Siam. *Commentaries of Buddhakosa*. Series of Buddhist Scriptures, translated into the Pali language and printed in Siamese characters, in commemoration of the crematory obsequies of Her Majesty, the late Queen-Mother. 15 v.
- Chelminski, Jan V., New York City. *L'Armée du Duché de Varsovie*. Par Jan V. Chelminski. Texte par le Commandant A. Malibran. Paris. 1913. Portraits. Plates, mostly colored.
- Committee of the Irish National War Memorial, Dublin, Ireland. *Ireland's Memorial Records*. 1914-18. Being the names of Irishmen who fell in the Great European War. With decorative borders by Harry Clarke. Dublin. 1923. Privately printed. 8 v., folio.
- Cooch, Mrs. J. Wilkins, Pocomoke, Md. *Ancestry and descendants of Nancy Allyn (Foote) Webb, Rev. Edward Webb and Joseph Wilkins Cooch*. By Mary Evarts (Webb) Cooch. Wilmington. 1919.
- Cutter, Leonard F., Charlestown. *A file of the Waverley Magazine from Vol I, 1850, to 1890, with some omissions*. This gift has made the Library file very nearly complete.
- Daughters of the American Revolution. National Society. *Manual of the United States*. For the information of immigrants and foreigners. Published by the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution. Compiled by Elizabeth C. B. Buel. Washington. 1923. Fifty copies each of English, Russian, Italian, French, German, Hungarian, Spanish, Polish and Yiddish manuals.
- Davis, Walter G., Portland, Me. *The ancestry of Lydia Harmon*. 1755-1836, wife of Joseph Waterhouse of Standish, Maine. By Walter Goodwin Davis. Boston. 1924.
- The Dickens Society of West Roxbury, through Mrs. Lawrence Baker. *The letters of Charles Dickens, 1833 to 1870*. London. 1909.
- Evans, Richard T., Tientsin, China. *American trade-marks, trade-names, copyrights and patents in China*. By Robert T. Bryan, Jr. Shanghai. (1924.)
- Farrer, Sir Thomas Cecil, 2d Lord Farrer, Dorking, England. Some

- Farrer memorials. Being a selection from the papers of Thomas Henry, first Lord Farrer, 1819-1899. Made by his son, Thomas Cecil, second Lord Farrer. London. 1923. Privately printed.
- Fearing, Mrs. Harriet. Twenty-five volumes, including *The Chesapeake Bay Country*. By Swepson Earle. Baltimore. 1923; *Colmar en France*. Par Carlos Fischer; *Cent dix aquarelles, eaux-fortes et dessins* by Hansi. Paris. 1923; *Nouvelle histoire de France*. Par Albert Malet. Paris. 1922; *The Inns of the Middle Ages*, by W. C. Firebaugh. Chicago. 1924; *Petit Larousse*, 1923 edition, and *The Highland Clans of Scotland*, by George Eyre-Todd.
- Ford, Worthington C. Twenty-five photostat copies of broadsides of the Revolutionary period, proclamations, epitaphs, etc.
- Goodowsky, Hyman, Estate of, through Barnard Goodowsky and Charles Shulman, executors. Three hundred and fifty-four volumes and 64 numbers of periodicals in Hebrew. A collection of Hebrew literature, including treatises and commentaries on the Old Testament, essays and sermons on the Talmud and on the Prophets.
- Great Britain, Patent Office, London. Specifications of inventions, 122 volumes.
- Hale, Philip. Five volumes of music for flute, harp, violin, etc. For the Allen A. Brown Music Library.
- Harper, Henry Howard. *The Devil's Nest*. (A novel.) By Henry Howard Harper. With etched frontispiece by W. H. W. Bicknell. No. 31 of 100 copies. Cedar Rapids. (1923.); *Library essays about books, bibliophiles, writers and kindred subjects*. By Henry Howard Harper. Boston. 1924.
- Hazard, Miss Caroline, Peacedale, R. I. *South Country studies of some Eighteenth Century persons, places and conditions, in that portion of Rhode Island, called Narragansett*. By Esther Bernon Carpenter. Boston. 1924.
- Hooper, Mrs. Susan Thayer. Fifty volumes of Italian literature. For North End Branch.
- Hovey, Dr. Alvah, Estate of, through Mrs. W. B. Parshley. Forty-three bound volumes and fifty unbound numbers of the *Bibliotheca Sacra*, 1844-1903.
- Huidekoper, Edgar, Meadville, Pa. Huidekoper. Holland family. 1730-1924. Compiled by Edgar Huidekoper. Jan. 1, 1924. (Chart.)
- Johnson, Henry Lewis. *Printing type specimens*. Standard modern type. By Henry Lewis Johnson. Boston. 1924. Two copies; *Historic design in printing*. With introduction by Henry Lewis Johnson. Boston. 1923. Inscribed copy.
- Jordan Marsh Company, through C. H. Critchett. Sixty-nine directories of New England cities and towns. For the Information Room.

- Lodge, Hon. Henry Cabot. Speeches and addresses of Warren G. Harding, President of the United States. Delivered during the course of his tour from Washington, D. C., to Alaska and return to San Francisco, June 20 to August 2, 1923. Compiled by James W. Murphy. (Washington. 1923.)
- McGill University Library, Montreal. Eighty-four publications of McGill University and "The romance of a princess, a comedy and other poems," by Amy Redpath Roddick.
- Mergenthaler Linotype Company. The manual of linotype typography. With comment by William Dana Orcutt. Brooklyn. 1923. Five copies.
- Mills, Mrs. Ina Lawson, Estate of, through Isaac B. Mills, executor. Twenty-one volumes of music, including opera scores of Faust, Martha, Traviata, etc.
- Monks, Mrs. Richard J. Les légendes de Venise. Par Maria Star. Illustrations de Raffaella Mainella. Venise. 1909. Exemplaire No. 301. Folio. Some borders and illustrations in color.
- Morgan, J. Pierpont, New York City. Babylonian records in the Library of J. Pierpont Morgan. Part 4. Edited by Albert T. Clay. New Haven. 1923.
- New York Public Library. Journalism. A bibliography. Compiled by Carl L. Cannon. New York. 1924.
- Nichols, E. M., Philadelphia. Nichols genealogy. Ancestry and descendants of Thomas Nichols of East Greenwich, Rhode Island and Danby, Vermont. Edited by Nathan Round Nichols. (Congress Park. 1923.)
- O'Brien, Dr. Frank P., New York City. A collection of 62 Beadle's Dime novels, including the rare Squaw Chief, by Mrs. Ann S. Stephens, and Maum Guinea, by Mrs. Metta V. Victor; photographs of Mr. E. F. Beadle, Wm. F. Cody, W. H. Manning and others, and a letter written by Mr. Beadle to his daughter.
- Old South Church in Boston. Book of the Fortieth Year. Issued in grateful and affectionate recognition of the fortieth anniversary of the installation of George A. Gordon, D.D., as minister of the Old South Church. Boston. 1924.
- Page, L. C., & Company. Nineteen volumes of their publications currently issued.
- Permanent Blind Relief War Fund, Paris. Two-hundred and twenty volumes, including 164 volumes of modern English and French authors in Contracted and Revised Braille.
- Perry, Thomas Sergeant. Six volumes, including The hymns, anthems and tunes, with the Ode used at the Magdalen Chapel. Set for the organ, harpsichord, voice, German-flute, or guitar. London. N. d.
- Radcliffe, Mrs. James A., New York. Captain Edward Richardson. A memorial. With genealogical records of some of his ancestors

- and descendants. By Elizabeth Wills Vernon Radcliffe. (Salem.) 1923. Privately printed.
- Reisner, George A., Clarence S. Fisher, and David Gordon Lyon. Harvard excavations at Samaria, 1908-1910. By George A. Reisner, Clarence S. Fisher, and David Gordon Lyon. Cambridge. Harvard University Press. 1924. (Harvard Semitic Series. 1, 2.)
- Sachs, Raphael, New York City. A collection of manuscript material, letters and documents relating to Boston and Massachusetts, 1734 to 1800. Among them a letter written in 1775 relating to the discontinuance of the light in Boston Harbor.
- Sanger, Mrs. George P. Alexandra (Empress). Letters to Nicholas II. Petrograd. 1922. 2 v. In Russian; six volumes of music.
- Sargent, Prof. Charles S., Brookline. A list of publications of the descendants of Epes Sargent. Compiled by Julia Mehitable Johnson. (1923.) Portraits of Epes and Ann Sargent, children of William Sargent and their descendants and connections, in the Judith Sargent House, Gloucester, Massachusetts. 1924.
- Seaver, Henry G., Westfield, N. J. The Seaver Genealogy, history and directory of the Seaver (Seavers, Sever, etc.) families of Europe and America. By Jesse Seaver. Philadelphia. 1924.
- Shaw, Mrs. Henry S., Milton, Mass. A collection of opera and concert programmes and theatre play bills dating from 1849 to 1923, two engravings and fourteen volumes including The works of Flavius Josephus, Frankfort, 1580; Ptolemy's Geography, Venice, Venice, 1598; the first edition of Bussato's Garden of Agriculture, Venice, 1592, and Dolce's translation of the Metamorphoses of Ovid, Venice, 1568. Among the 17th century books are Theatro del Mondo by Ortelius, Venice, 1689, with a description and map of America and Della Fisionomia dell 'Huomo by G. Battista Porta, Padua, 1623, illustrated with wood-cuts; and a Bible in German, printed at Dordrecht, bound in leather with emblems and figures in repoussé metal work.
- A second gift of eighty volumes included seventy-six volumes of the Bibliophile Society publications and a third gift comprised of dictionaries, encyclopaedias, and illustrated books of travel.
- Storer, Mrs. Bellamy, Paris. In memoriam. Bellamy Storer. With personal remembrances of President McKinley, President Roosevelt, and John Ireland, Archbishop of St. Paul. By Maria Longworth Storer. Boston. 1923. Privately printed.
- Strassburger, Ralph Beaver, Gwynedd Valley, Pa. The Strassburger family and allied families of Pennsylvania. Being the ancestry of Jacob Andrew Strassburger, Esquire, of Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. By his son Ralph Beaver Strassburger. Printed for private circulation. Gwynedd Valley. 1922.
- West Roxbury Women's Club. Seven volumes for the West Roxbury

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## NEWS EXTRACTS FROM BRANCH REPORTS.

### ALLSTON BRANCH.

There has been an increase of interest in the Library since the publication in the local newspapers of information about new books and leading magazine articles. The poster exhibits have proved an attractive feature, especially the one on automobiles. Gain in circulation, 2,653.

### ANDREW SQUARE BRANCH.

The public has been attracted by window displays on Japan, Alaska, Poland, gardening, cooking, etc., and by collections of books and pictures arranged in the reading room to supplement these displays. The local Polish newspaper has shown a friendly co-operation with the library in a series of articles, which have stimulated the interest of many new readers and increased the circulation of books, especially those on English for foreigners. Gain in circulation, 16,205.

### BOYLSTON STATION BRANCH.

Window decoration has been found to be an excellent means of increasing the interest of the public in the library. The news is passed around, and spectators of all ages appear in numbers, like Roderick Dhu's men. The Christmas decorations were arranged before an inspiring audience, both inside and outside the library, including the "station gang," in their own doorway across the court. Patrons find it a long walk from Centre or Washington Streets, but they come often nevertheless. All ages, from seventy to five — all occupations from ministers of the Gospel to primary school babies — all nationalities, from the original Germans whose territory this district was, through Irish, Scotch, Polish, Lithuanian, Jewish and Italian. The library serves them all to the best of its power. Gain in circulation, 2,531.

**BRIGHTON BRANCH.**

A splendid spirit of co-operation exists between the staff, the public and the schools. There has been no change in the staff this year. Gain in circulation, 5,030.

**CHARLESTOWN BRANCH.**

The busy time in the library begins about seven o'clock in the evening. A man comes in for a Montreal paper, two little girls for "nobels" for their mother, a woman to meet a friend and manicure her nails, a boy for the High School Reading List, two young girls for the dictionary and a cross-word puzzle. Just as the Librarian has succeeded in supplying these wants, in rush ten more young things, demanding "Flour," "Wheat," "Muscle Food," "Benjamin Franklin," "Fireless Cookery," etc. And so it goes! Loss in circulation, 602.

**CITY POINT BRANCH.**

The library feels rich in the possession of the recently acquired and very much needed Encyclopedia Britannica. Other books of reference are very much in demand, as are also those on radio, accountancy, tool-making, etc. There is considerable call for such excellent non-fiction as Thomsen's "Outlines of Science," Drinkwater's "Outlines of Literature," Papini's "Life of Christ," Havelock Ellis' "Dance of Life," etc. The appreciation and support of its public is a constant source of stimulus and help to the staff of the library, and makes worth while their best effort. Gain in circulation, 4,164.

**CODMAN SQUARE BRANCH.**

The library has had this year several requests for advice on matters literary — among others, from a Harvard graduate selecting books for boys of twelve to fifteen years, and from the pastor of the Swedish Vasa Church, who teaches a class of immigrants. The books most in demand are those on travel, biography and music. The collection of books for Music Week had an especially good circulation. Gain in circulation, 1,421.

**DORCHESTER BRANCH.**

The Library serves a busy community. There are few foreigners, and all who come speak and read English. Some of the children take out books to use in teaching their parents English. Books on citizenship circulate well. The Library is handicapped by being on the second and third floors. Many people complain of the stairs. If it were on the ground floor, its usefulness would doubtless be much increased. Gain in circulation, 13,020.



## EAST BOSTON BRANCH.

East Boston is rapidly changing in character. The American families are moving out, and the new comers are almost invariably of Italian origin. This change in the community necessitates a change in the Library's method of approach. Previously it was necessary to serve those who came, now it is also necessary to gain the interest of those who do not care much about books and who are not interested in libraries. In this district, the change from a reading to a non-reading public, the establishment of another branch and the location of the Library are handicaps to the growth of the work. The chief difficulty, however, is the insufficient staff. During rush hours, the assistants have not time to give the personal attention without which the best results are impossible. Gain in circulation, 2,803.

## FANEUIL BRANCH.

From four o'clock, when schools are out, till Library closing hours, the staff is besieged with questions about high school reading, lives of authors, unfamiliar words, stories, poems, and material for debates. Gain in circulation, 3,439.

## FELLOWES ATHENAEUM BRANCH.

By virtue of its fifty-two years and honorable record, Fellowes Athenaeum has attained the dignity and charm of tradition. Its older patrons speak wistfully of the days when this old building was considered the model library building of the State — of the days of Edward Everett Hale and Dr. Putnam, of the days when George Santayana lived up the street and Dr. De Normandie came in every day, when the Trustees dropped in to read and smoke in the old rooms with "TRUSTEES" painted on the door, and when the little sons of the Trustees might have a library key, and browse around a Sunday afternoon, long before anyone thought of having a public library open on Sunday. The old portraits in the big reading room meant more to those little boys than they do to the children who come now. They knew the story of Caleb Fellowes, the Gloucester boy who went to sea against the will of his parents, and was not heard from again for twenty-five years. But, in that time, he found his way to India, where he prospered in honorable trade, and after his return, settled in Roxbury, his mother's birthplace, and provided for the town the Fellowes Athenaeum.

Years ago — how many, only one person knows, and he is not telling — A youngster visited the Roxbury Branch of the Boston Public Library and broke a bust of George Washington. Now, when George cut down the cherry tree and his father questioned him, he told the truth and got his start on the road to immortal fame. But nobody in the library heard

the bust crash to the floor, hence nobody taxed the scared youngster, and long ago the incident was forgotten by all but the boy. The other day there arrived at the library a huge package. Surprised attendants removed layers and layers of tissue wrapping until, finally, there gazed up at them the serene countenance of the Father of His Country. With the gift came this explanatory note: "This bust of George, the Immortal, I am sending to take the place of one I broke in the library when I was a youngster." The bust, needless to say, has been accorded a place of honor, and the note is carefully preserved in a spirit of gratitude to the donor who concealed his name, but revealed a conscience. Gain in circulation, 4,334.

#### HYDE PARK BRANCH.

The loss of many privileges through becoming a branch of the Boston Public Library, the lack of increase in the population since the annexation of Hyde Park to Boston and the situation of this library in an inconspicuous side street, have doubtless been factors in the slow growth of circulation. Gain in circulation, 5,618.

#### JAMAICA PLAIN BRANCH.

One of our patrons, an ex-soldier who has been gassed and is blind, comes to the library with a friend who reads to him. They need a quiet place, and have been given the use of the office, a privilege which they appreciate greatly. Gain in circulation, 4,608.

#### JEFFRIES POINT BRANCH.

During the year posters and book covers, calling attention to both juvenile and adult literature, have been displayed in the windows and in the library. Undoubtedly, this has been largely responsible for the increase in circulation. A special effort has been made to change the exhibit every two or three weeks. Quite frequently, people stop to look at the display and then come in to apply for a card. The library could be of more service to the adults if their room were better situated. As it is, those wishing to use the adult room must pass through the children's room, which from three-thirty to five-thirty is overflowing with eager, restless children. Many adults would like to use the library during these hours, but do not come because of this difficulty. Gain in circulation, 11,163.

#### DORCHESTER LOWER MILLS BRANCH.

The women using the library evidently look forward to their visits, for a bit of gossip and news. Some who are not strong enough to get about much regard their weekly trip to the library for books in the light of an adventure, and one woman, housed with an aged mother to care for, gets

much cheer from her visit. For various reasons, the library means more than just books to many of the community. Gain in circulation, 1,458.

#### MATTAPAN BRANCH.

Mattapan is fortunate in having among its patrons many who read for the love of reading and for the joy of cultivating the mind. They are discriminating and decided in their tastes and determined to have what they want. The keynote of the past year has been the pleasant personal relations established between the staff and the public. Young and old seek the librarian's advice about their reading and criticize the books when read, feeling sure of the interest and sympathy of the staff. Gain in circulation, 21,090.

#### MOUNT BOWDOIN BRANCH.

As regards light, warmth, and cheerfulness, Mount Bowdoin is the acme of perfection. But it lacks space, in fact, a building twice the size is needed. The 1923-24 increase in the adult circulation has been maintained, and even advanced, but the gain is not what it should be, owing to the cramped quarters. From three-thirty to eight o'clock, most of the room and practically all the time and attention of the librarian and her assistants are engaged by the constant flow of children from the neighboring schools. The grown people read for recreation, and no not care to come to a place where the crowd, at busy hours is so great that passageway around the tables and access to the shelves is difficult. Gain in circulation, 8,718.

#### MOUNT PLEASANT BRANCH.

During the summer months, when out of door life calls the patrons, and the library is often forgotten, posters are displayed on the bulletin board, with such captions as "So you are going to Europe. If not in reality, why not by books? Read . . ." "Are you interested in cooking? Read . . ." etc. Many people use the shower baths which are in the same building as the library. Their attention is attracted by typewritten sheets, bearing the legend: "After the shower, why not a book? The Library is just around the corner!" Gain in circulation, 976.

#### NEPONSET BRANCH.

The public served at Neponset is strictly American. Almost all are home owners, and the stable character of the neighborhood makes it possible for the librarians to become intimately acquainted with the patrons, their tastes and needs. This intimacy is particularly noticeable among the children, who frequently write only their first name and address on the home slips, when borrowing books. A slip may read "John, Minot Street," and the librarian always knows who "John" is. It is customary

for a member of the staff, when she has occasion to pass the house of a patron, to deliver a book which has been asked for. This is known in the library as the "Rural Free Delivery System." Gain in circulation, 1,113.

#### NORTH END BRANCH.

To stand at the gateway of the nation, offering to those who enter the gift of friendship, is indeed a high privilege. The welcome offered by the branch library is not a temporary, individual one, but a welcome from the great of all ages. The people of this district have curiosity, ambition and faith. They crowd the reading rooms and use the books freely. Gain in circulation, 9,746.

#### ORIENT HEIGHTS BRANCH.

The display window is an excellent means of letting the public know what books may be found in the library, and also of acquainting the staff with the books that are most in demand. Books on engineering or automobiling will not remain in the window more than half an hour, whereas a fascinating display of travel may be untouched for weeks. Possibly Orient Heights is exceptional in this respect, but there are not more than five patrons who choose non-fiction, except when it can be of use to them in their work. Gain in circulation, 10,025.

#### PARKER HILL BRANCH.

Until recently our work with foreigners has been practically nil, but within the past six months Lithuanians, Poles and Swedes have taken up their residence in the neighborhood, and the juvenile members of these families have made immediate application for cards. In this district the relation of the library to the schools is important. Primary and grammar material is supplied to the Farragut, Thomas Dwight, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Charles Bulfinch, Comins and Martin Schools; high school material to the students of the High School of Commerce, the Girls' Latin and Boys' Latin, and college material to the pupils of Teachers' College. The co-operation with and appreciation of the library by the teachers of these schools is remarkable and is very stimulating to the best efforts of the librarian. Loss in circulation, 7,043.

#### ROSLINDALE BRANCH.

In spite of the fact that there are several circulating libraries in the immediate vicinity, the branch still holds its own. A children's room, established last year, is now fully developed. A new entrance for their use relieves some of the turmoil formerly occasioned by the entrance of the undisciplined youth in the adult room. This, of course, has helped in maintaining order, which has much improved. Gain in circulation, 5,552.

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Church as their center. Their place has been taken by the Syrians, Greeks, Italians and Chinese, or the business houses. St. James parish now consists mainly of transients. The widening of Kneeland Street into Stuart Street has converted the adjoining section into a business center."

Mr. Wadir Shakir, editor of the Syrian Press: "The removal of many Syrians to the Shawmut Avenue and Roxbury districts has had a detrimental effect upon the library. The officers of the leading Syrian organizations are not residents of this section. This fact shows that the neighborhood is no longer the old home town of its more prosperous Syrian citizens."

The late Mr. Robert A. Woods, Director of South End House: "The removal of Syrians and Armenians to the Shawmut Avenue section during the last few years has been very noticeable. Naturally this change in the population has affected the library. I should judge that the Syrians as a race are not great readers. The increase of the Chinese colony would not increase the circulation. Since the Jewish people are such an asset for library circulation, I should think that efforts could be made to encourage the colony beyond the railroad bridge to use your branch. The natural increase of business houses crowds out the better type of families for the more transient types."

Loss in circulation, 4,949.

#### UPHAM'S CORNER BRANCH.

A library located in a municipal building may well play its part in the development of the district. This branch has been given supervision of the large bulletin board in the main corridor with the stipulation that all official activities of the district be displayed on it as well as those relating to the library. There have been posted, in addition to notices of local municipal affairs, material relating to the schools, current events and, among library notices, numerous book lists. From the beginning the lists have appeared so desirable that their early disappearance could be counted upon. At Upham's Corner one does not find a particular type of borrower. There is a general reading public having a strong inclination for fiction with the usual and frequent exceptions on the part of the student, study and literary groups. Loss in circulation, 13,756.

#### WARREN STREET BRANCH.

A teacher of Hebrew recently applied for a Special Card. Against the question — "Reason for granting this request?" — he wrote: "Study is my life ideal." In a broad sense, this remark typifies the spirit of the borrower at Warren Street. During the past year this has been especially noticed in the groups of people who have come here from Russia or Poland, including, as usual, a large number who have been enrolled in the principal universities of their respective countries. The new arrivals are anxious to

acquire English as a step toward becoming citizens, and often the beginning of this course is at the registration desk of the branch. Here there may be found one or more members of the staff, well-equipped to handle the difficulties of language. Gain in circulation, 14,822.

#### WEST END BRANCH.

It is nice to be able to say "thank you" to those in command for the many favors shown to the West End Branch this year, such as an adequate lighting system, the installation of a telephone, repairs to the roof, etc., but this stately and historic building, formerly Dr. Bartol's Old West Church, is constantly in need of cleaning, repairing and painting, if it is to be kept from deterioration, and is to be preserved in a manner befitting its beauty and historic interest. Would it perhaps be possible to raise an endowment fund for the proper upkeep of the building, among those who belonged, or whose ancestors belonged, to Dr. Bartol's Church, and who would doubtless be interested for the sake of old time memories? Gain in circulation, 3,054.

#### WEST ROXBURY BRANCH.

The Girl Scouts applied to the library for work. A great deal was found for them to do. Since last April they have cut out of the *Geographic Magazines* for picture collections, 3,162 pictures on 118 subjects. They also fetch and carry books for patrons who are unable to come to the library. The little girls also want to work, and five or six of them, about nine years old, have made twenty scrap-books, which will be sent to the North End Branch, as a Christmas present to the North End children. In March, 1924, a series of book-reviews was started in connection with the Women's Club which meets in the library each month. The lists of books printed at Central are very useful to the meetings of the Book Review and of the Book Clubs. There are twenty of these Book Clubs, with about eighteen members in each. Gain in circulation, 7,050.

#### OFFICIALS OF THE LIBRARY.

Director,	Charles F. D. Belden.
Assistant to Director,	Robert A. Howes.
Reference Librarian,	Frank H. Chase.
Executive Secretary,	Della Jean Deery.
Auditor,	Adelaide A. Nichols.

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Bates Hall Centre Desk, Patent and Newspaper Department: Pierce E. Buckley, Chief.

Patent Division, William J. Ennis, Assistant in Charge.

Newspaper Division, Frederic Serex, Assistant in Charge.

Bindery Department: James W. Kenney, Chief.

Branch Department: Edith Guerrier, Supervisor of Branches.

Central Branch Issue Division, Alice V. Stevens, Assistant in Charge.

Branch Binding Division, Marian A. McCarthy, Assistant in Charge.

Shipping Division, Robert F. Dixon, Assistant in Charge.

\* For Branch Librarians, see below.

Catalogue Department: Samuel A. Chevalier, Chief.

Card Division, T. Francis Brennan, Assistant in Charge.

Shelf Division, Michael McCarthy, Chief Classifier, in Charge.

Children's Department: Alice M. Jordan, Supervisor of Work with Children.

Children's Librarian, Central Library, Mary C. Toy.

Engineer and Janitor Department: William F. Quinn, Supt. of Buildings.

Information Office: John H. Reardon, Assistant in Charge.

Issue Department: Frank C. Blaisdell, Chief.

Ordering Department: Theodosia E. Macurdy, Chief.

Periodical Room: Francis J. Hannigan, Assistant in Charge.

Printing Department: Francis Watts Lee, Chief.

Registration Department: A. Frances Rogers, Chief.

Special Libraries Department: Winthrop H. Chenery, Chief.

Technology Division, George S. Maynard, Assistant in Charge.

Music Division, Richard G. Appel, Assistant in Charge.

Barton-Ticknor Division, Zoltán Haraszti, Assistant in Charge.

Statistical Department: Horace L. Wheeler, Chief.

Stock Room: Timothy J. Mackin, Custodian.

\*Branch Librarians:

Allston, Katherine F. Muldoon.

Andrew Square, Elizabeth H. McShane.

Boylston Station, Edith R. Nickerson.

Brighton, Marian W. Brackett.

Charlestown, Katherine S. Rogan.

City Point, Alice L. Murphy.

Codman Square, Elizabeth P. Ross.

Dorchester, Edith F. Pendleton.

East Boston, Laura M. Cross.

Faneuil, Gertrude L. Connell.

Fellowes Athenaeum, Mary E. Ames.

Hyde Park, Grace L. Murray.

Jamaica Plain, Katie F. Albert.

Jeffries Point, Margaret A. Calnan.

Lower Mills, Isabel E. Wetherald (acting).

Mattapan, Lois Clark (acting).

Mount Bowdoin, Theodora B. Scoff.

Mount Pleasant, Margaret H. Reid.

Neponset, Ellen C. McShane.



North End, Mary F. Curley (acting).  
Orient Heights, Catharine F. Flannery.  
Parker Hill, Mary M. Sullivan.  
Roslindale, Annie M. Donovan.  
Roxbury Crossing, Katrina M. Sather.  
South Boston, M. Florence Cuffin.  
South End, Margaret A. Sheridan.  
Upham's Corner, Beatrice C. Maguire.  
Tyler Street, Marion C. Kingman.  
Warren Street, Beatrice M. Flanagan.  
West Roxbury, Carrie L. Morse.  
West End, Fanny Goldstein.

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Cen

BRA

CITY PROPE

North 1

South 1

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BRIGHTON.

Brighto

Allston

Faneuil

CHARLESTON

Charles

DORCHESTER

Dorche

Codman

Upham

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Mattap

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Hyde

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Fellow

Warren

Mount

Parker

Roxbury

SOUTH BOSTON

South

Andre

City F

WEST ROXBURY

West 1

Roslin







SEVENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TRUSTEES

OF THE

PUBLIC LIBRARY

OF THE

CITY OF BOSTON

1925

BOSTON

PUBLISHED BY THE TRUSTEES

1926.



THE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON: PRINTING DEPARTMENT.  
MP2; 7.31.26. 2500.

Boston Pub. Lib.  
exch.  
8-19-1926

TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
ON JANUARY 1, 1926.

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MICHAEL J. MURRAY, *President.*

Term expires April 30, 1926.

ARTHUR T. CONNOLLY. LOUIS E. KIRSTEIN.

Term expires April 30, 1927.

Term expires April 30, 1929.

GUY W. CURRIER.

Term expires April 30, 1928.

WILLIAM A. GASTON.

Term expires April 30, 1930.

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DIRECTOR.

CHARLES F. D. BELDEN.

## ORGANIZATION OF THE LIBRARY DEPARTMENT.

The Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, organized in 1852, are now incorporated under the provisions of Chapter 114, of the Acts of 1878, as amended. The Board for 1852 was a preliminary organization; that for 1853 made its first annual report. At first the Board consisted of one alderman and one common-councilman and five citizens at large, until 1867, when a revised ordinance made it consist of one alderman, two common-councilmen and six citizens at large, two of whom retired, unless re-elected, each year, while the members from the City Council were elected yearly. In 1878 the organization of the Board was changed to include one alderman, one councilman, and five citizens at large, as before 1867; and in 1885, by the provisions of the amended city charter, the representation of the City Government upon the Board by an alderman and a councilman was abolished, leaving the Board as at present, consisting of five citizens at large, appointed by the Mayor, for five-year terms, the term of one member expiring each year. The following citizens at large have been members of the Board since its organization in 1852:

ABBOTT, SAMUEL APPLETON BROWNE, A.M., 1879-95.  
APPLETON, THOMAS GOLD, A.M., 1852-56.  
BENTON, JOSIAH HENRY, LL.D., 1894-1917.  
BIGELOW, JOHN PRESCOTT, A.M., 1852-68.  
BOWDITCH, HENRY INGERSOLL, M.D., 1865-67.  
BOWDITCH, HENRY PICKERING, M.D., 1894-1902.  
BOYLE, THOMAS FRANCIS, 1902-12.  
BRAMAN, JARVIS DWIGHT, 1869-72.  
BRETT, JOHN ANDREW, LL.B., 1912-16.  
CARR, SAMUEL, 1895-96, 1908-22.  
CHASE, GEORGE BIGELOW, A.M., 1876-85.  
CLARKE, JAMES FREEMAN, D.D., 1879-88.  
COAKLEY, DANIEL HENRY, 1917-19.  
CONNOLLY, ARTHUR THEODORE, 1916-  
CURRIER, GUY WILBUR, 1922-  
CURTIS, DANIEL SARGENT, A.M., 1873-75.  
DE NORMANDIE, JAMES, D.D., 1895-1908.  
DWIGHT, THOMAS, M.D., 1899-1908.  
EVERETT, EDWARD, LL.D., 1852-64.  
FROTHINGHAM, RICHARD, LL.D., 1875-79.  
GASTON, WILLIAM ALEXANDER, LL.B., 1923-  
GREEN, SAMUEL ABBOTT, M.D., 1868-78.  
GREENOUGH, WILLIAM WHITWELL, 1856-88.  
HAYNES, HENRY WILLIAMSON, A.M., 1880-94.  
HILLIARD, GEORGE STILLMAN, LL.D., 1872-75; 76-77.  
KENNEY, WILLIAM FRANCIS, A.M., 1908-1921.  
KIRSTEIN, LOUIS EDWARD, 1919-  
LEWIS, WESTON, 1868-79.  
LEWIS, WINSLOW, M.D., 1867.

LINCOLN, SOLOMON, A.M., 1897-1907.  
 MANN, ALEXANDER, D.D., 1908-1923.  
 MORTON, ELLIS WESLEY, 1870-73.  
 MURRAY, MICHAEL JOSEPH, LL.B., 1921-  
 PIERCE, PHINEAS, 1888-94.  
 PRINCE, FREDERICK OCTAVIUS, A.M., 1888-99.  
 PUTNAM, GEORGE, D.D., 1868-77.  
 RICHARDS, WILLIAM REUBEN, A.M., 1889-95.  
 SHURTLEFF, NATHANIEL BRADSTREET, LL.D., 1852-68.  
 THOMAS, BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, LL.D., 1877-78.  
 TICKNOR, GEORGE, LL.D., 1852-66.  
 WALKER, FRANCIS AMASA, LL.D., 1896.  
 WHIPPLE, EDWIN PERCY, A.M., 1867-70.  
 WHITMORE, WILLIAM HENRY, A.M., 1885-88.  
 WINSOR, JUSTIN, LL.D., 1867-68.

The HON. EDWARD EVERETT was President of the Board from 1852 to 1864; GEORGE TICKNOR, in 1865; WILLIAM W. GREENOUGH, from 1866 to April, 1888; PROF. HENRY W. HAYNES, from May 7, 1888, to May 12, 1888; SAMUEL A. B. ABBOTT, May 12, 1888, to April 30, 1895; HON. F. O. PRINCE, October 8, 1895, to May 8, 1899; SOLOMON LINCOLN, May 12, 1899, to October 15, 1907; REV. JAMES DE NORMANDIE, January 31, 1908, to May 8, 1908; JOSIAH H. BENTON, May 8, 1908, to February 6, 1917; WILLIAM F. KENNEY, February 13, 1917, to May 7, 1920; REV. ALEXANDER MANN, May 7, 1920, to January 22, 1923; MSGR. ARTHUR T. CONNOLLY, April 13, 1923 to June 13, 1924; LOUIS E. KIRSTEIN, June 13, 1924 to June 19, 1925; HON. MICHAEL J. MURRAY since June 19, 1925.

### LIBRARIANS.

(From 1858 to 1877, the chief executive officer was called Superintendent; since 1923 Director.)

CAPEN, EDWARD, *Librarian*, May 13, 1852 - December 16, 1874.  
 JEWETT, CHARLES C., *Superintendent*, 1858 - January 9, 1868.  
 WINSOR, JUSTIN, LL.D., *Superintendent*, February 25, 1868 - September 30, 1877.  
 GREEN, SAMUEL A., M.D., *Trustee, Acting Librarian*, October 1, 1877 - September 30, 1878.  
 CHAMBERLAIN, MELLEN, LL.D., *Librarian*, October 1, 1878 - September 30, 1890.  
 DWIGHT, THEODORE F., *Librarian*, April 13, 1892 - April 30, 1894.  
 PUTNAM, HERBERT, LL.D., *Librarian*, February 11, 1895 - April 30, 1899.  
 WHITNEY, JAMES L., A.M., *Acting Librarian*, March 31, 1899 - December 21, 1899; *Librarian*, December 22, 1899 - January 31, 1903.  
 WADLIN, HORACE G., LL.D., *Librarian*, February 1, 1903 - March 15, 1917; *Acting Librarian*, March 15, 1917 - June 15, 1917.  
 BELDEN, CHARLES F. D., LL.B., *Director*, since March 15, 1917.

## LIBRARY SYSTEM, JANUARY 1, 1926.

DEPARTMENTS.	OPENED.
†Central Library, Copley Square . . . . .	May 2, 1854
†East Boston Branch, 276-282 Meridian St. . . . .	Jan. 28, 1871
§South Boston Branch, 372 Broadway . . . . .	May 1, 1872
Fellowes Athenæum Branch, 46 Millmont St. . . . .	July 16, 1873
†Charlestown Branch, 43 Monument Square . . . . .	Jan. 5, 1874
†Brighton Branch, Academy Hill Road . . . . .	Jan. 5, 1874
‡Dorchester Branch, Arcadia, cor. Adams St. . . . .	Jan. 25, 1875
‡Lower Mills Branch, Washington, cor. Richmond St. . . . .	*June 7, 1875
‡South End Branch, 65 West Brookline St. . . . .	Aug., 1877
†Jamaica Plain Branch, Sedgwick, cor. South St. . . . .	Sept., 1877
‡Roslindale Branch, 4210 Washington St. . . . .	*Dec. 3, 1878
†West Roxbury Branch, 1961 Centre St. . . . .	*Jan. 6, 1880
§Mattapan Branch, 7 Babson St. . . . .	*Dec. 27, 1881
†North End Branch, 3a North Bennet St. . . . .	*Oct., 1882
§Neponset Branch, 362 Neponset Ave. . . . .	*Jan. 1, 1883
§Mt. Bowdoin Branch, 202 Washington St. . . . .	*Nov. 1, 1886
§Allston Branch, 138 Brighton Ave. . . . .	*Mar. 11, 1889
‡Codman Square Branch, Washington, cor. Norfolk St. . . . .	*Nov. 12, 1890
‡Mt. Pleasant Branch, Vine, cor. Dudley St. . . . .	*Apr. 29, 1892
‡Tyler Street Branch, Tyler, cor. Oak St. . . . .	*Jan. 16, 1896
†West End Branch, 131 Cambridge St. . . . .	Feb. 1, 1896
‡Upham's Corner Branch, 500 Columbia Rd. . . . .	*Mar. 16, 1896
§Warren Street Branch, 392 Warren St. . . . .	*May 1, 1896
§Roxbury Crossing Branch, 208 Ruggles St. . . . .	*Jan. 18, 1897
§Boylston Station Branch, The Lamartine, Depot Square . . . . .	*Nov. 1, 1897
§Orient Heights Branch, 1030 Bennington St. . . . .	*June 25, 1901
‡City Point Branch, Municipal Bldg., Broadway . . . . .	*July 18, 1906
§Parker Hill Branch, 1518 Tremont St. . . . .	*July 15, 1907
†Hyde Park Branch, Harvard Ave., cor. Winthrop St. . . . .	Jan. 1, 1912
†Faneuil Branch, 100 Brooks St. . . . .	*Mar. 4, 1914
§Andrew Square Branch, 396 Dorchester St. . . . .	*Mar. 5, 1914
§Jeffries Point Branch, 195 Webster St. . . . .	*Oct. 15, 1921

/ ¶ In the case of the Central Library and some of the branches the opening was in a different location from that now occupied. \* As a delivery station. † In building owned by City, and exclusively devoted to library uses. ‡ In City building, in part devoted to other municipal uses. § Occupies rented rooms. || The lessee of the Fellowes Athenæum, a private library association.

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Map of the Library System . . . . .	At the end
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To HIS HONOR MALCOLM E. NICHOLS,  
*Mayor of the City of Boston.*

The Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston present the following report of its condition and affairs for the year ending December 31, 1925, being the seventy-fourth annual report.

ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD.

Mr. William A. Gaston, whose term as a Trustee expired on April 30, 1925, was re-appointed for a term ending April 30, 1930. The Board organized at the annual meeting on June 19, 1925, by the election of Judge Michael J. Murray as President, Mr. Guy W. Currier, Vice-President, and Miss Della Jean Deery, Clerk.

RECEIPTS OF THE LIBRARY.

The receipts which may be expended by the Trustees for the maintenance of the Library consist of the annual appropriation by the Mayor and City Council, and the income from Trust Funds given to the institution and invested by the City Treasurer. During the past year these receipts were:

Annual appropriation . . . . .	\$863,772.00
Special appropriation (Annex balance) . . . . .	11,799.39
Income from Trust Funds . . . . .	19,235.72
Unexpended balance of Trust Funds income of previous year . . . . .	56,579.93
	<hr/>
	\$951,387.04

Receipts which are accounted for and paid into the City Treasury for general municipal purposes, during the past year have been as follows:

From fines . . . . .	\$15,691.17
From sales of catalogues etc. . . . .	56.93
From commission on telephone stations . . . . .	506.29
From sale of waste paper . . . . .	245.15
From payments for lost books . . . . .	1,262.01
Interests on bank deposits . . . . .	6.08
	<hr/>
Total . . . . .	\$17,762.63



## ESTIMATES FOR 1926.

The estimates for the maintenance of the Library for the year ending December 31, 1926 in segregated budget form are as follows:

A — Personal service . . . . .	\$691,721.00
B — Service other than personal . . . . .	130,522.00
C — Equipment . . . . .	156,336.00
D — Supplies . . . . .	35,410.00
E — Materials . . . . .	24,779.00
F — Special items . . . . .	864.00
Total . . . . .	<u>\$1,039,632.00</u>

## ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY.

During the present year, covering an eleven month period, there have been added to the Central Library and branches 85,163 volumes as against 81,687 in 1924-25. Of these 72,925 were acquired by purchase and 12,238 by gift, exchanges, etc. The total expenditures for books, periodicals, newspapers and other library material from City appropriation and Trust Funds income, was \$128,729.04. The total number of volumes in the Central Library and branches is 1,363,515.

## CIRCULATION.

The total number of books issued for home use during the year was 3,129,781, for eleven months, as against 3,132,194 in 1924-25, twelve months. As the Director points out, the number would soon be doubled if there were more books, more branches and the required service to meet the fast-growing demands made on the Library Department.

## GIFTS AND BEQUESTS.

The Trustees are glad to report the following gifts and bequests during 1925: in response to an appeal by the President in April setting forth the needs of the Library, the following gifts of money were received: from Mr. Percy Lee Atherton, \$25, Mr. William York Peters, \$25, and Mr. John T. Spaulding, \$100. These were funded as the "Central Library Building Fund"

and the Trustees voted that sums of money hereafter received without specific direction be added to this Fund until further action.

In October, Mr. Louis E. Kirstein gave to the Library \$1000, stating his intention to add to the fund each year if able to do so. This was funded as the "Louis E. Kirstein Fund".

In December Mr. Morris Gest gave to the Library \$2652.50, the gross receipts from a benefit performance for the Library of "The Miracle", which was funded as the "Morris Gest Fund," the income to be used in the interest of dramatic art.

In December, a bequest under the will of Alice B. Chase of an oil painting of "Old Boston," a memorial to her husband Theodore Chase, was accepted by the Trustees under approval of the Art Commision.

Many important gifts of books and other library material have been received as usual during the year. A detailed statement of these may be found in the Director's report.

#### TRUST FUNDS.

The Trustees welcome bequests of money, and hope that generous testators may remember the Library. It is from such sources only that they can make purchases of rare works, which give value and rank to a great educational institution but for which they hesitate to expend public funds appropriated for more popular and pressing use.

As a matter of interest to the public, the Board has pleasure in listing herewith the present trust funds of the Library, with explanatory notes.

**Artz Fund.**— Donation from MISS VICTORINE THOMAS ARTZ, of Chicago; the income of this sum to be employed in the purchase of valuable, rare editions of the writings, either in verse or prose, of American and foreign authors. These books are to be known as the "Longfellow Memorial Collection." Received in 1896.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond* . \$10,000.00

**Bates Fund** — Donation made by JOSHUA BATES, of London, in March, 1853.

"The income only of this fund is to be each and every year expended in the purchase of such books of permanent value and authority as

may be found most needful and most useful." Payable to the Mayor of the city for the time being.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond* . . . \$50,000.00

**Bigelow Fund** — Donation made by JOHN P. BIGELOW in August, 1850, when Mayor of the city.

The income from this fund is to be appropriated for the purchase of books for the increase of the library.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond* . . . \$1,000.00

**Robert Charles Billings Fund** — Bequest of ROBERT CHARLES BILLINGS.

"The sum to constitute a permanent fund for said library, to be called the Robert Charles Billings Fund, the income only to be used for the purposes of the purchase of books for said library." Received in 1903.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds* . . . \$100,000.00

**Bowditch Fund** — Bequest of J. INGERSOLL BOWDITCH. Received in 1890.

The whole income in each and every year to be expended in the purchase of books of permanent value and authority in mathematics and astronomy.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond* . . . . . \$10,000.00

**Bradlee Fund** — Bequest of the REV. CALEB DAVIS BRADLEE to the Boston Public Library. Received in 1897.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-half per cent Bond* . . . . . \$1,000.00

**Joseph H. Center Fund** — Bequest of JOSEPH H. CENTER, the income thereof to be at all times applied to the purchase of books and other additions to the library. Received in 1905.

*Invested in*

City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . . . . . \$1,000.00

City of Boston Three and one half per cent Bonds . . . . . 38,500.00

Cash in City Treasury, December 31, 1925 . . . . . 43.14

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\$39,543.14

**Children's Fund** — Bequest of JOSIAH H. BENTON of \$100,000, to be held as "The Children's Fund," and the income applied to the purchase of books for the use of the young, to be applied for those purposes only in years when the city appropriates for the maintenance of the Boston Public Library at least three per cent of the amount available for department expenses from taxes and income in said city. In any year when the city does not thus appropriate at least three per cent of the amount available for department expenses from taxes and

income in said City, the income given in said will for the purchase of books shall be paid to the Rector of Trinity Church in the City of Boston to be by him dispensed in relieving the necessities of the poor.

*Invested in*

City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond	\$15,000.00
City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . . .	62,000.00
Commonwealth of Massachusetts Three and one-half per cent Bond . . . . .	20,000.00
Commonwealth of Massachusetts Four per cent Bond . . . . .	6,000.00
Cash in Treasury, December 31, 1925 . . . . .	117.74
	<hr/>
	\$103,117.74

**Clement Fund** — Bequest of the late FRANK CLEMENT, of Newton, to be known as the "Frank Clement Fund," the income to be applied to the purchase of books. Received in 1915.

*Invested in* City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . . . \$2,000.00

**Henry Sargent Codman Memorial Fund** — This is a contribution from the friends of HENRY SARGENT CODMAN, to be used to perpetuate the memory of Mr. Codman by the purchase of books upon landscape gardening.

It is the desire of the subscribers that a special book plate shall be inserted in each one of the volumes purchased, identifying it as part of their memorial collection. Received in 1898.

<i>Invested in</i> City of Boston Three and one half per cent Bond . . . . .	\$2,800.00
Cash in Treasury, December 31, 1925 . . . . .	54.41
	<hr/>
	\$2,854.41

**Cutter Fund** — Bequest of ABRAM E. CUTTER of four thousand dollars and his library of books, the income of the fund to be expended for the purchase of books, and for binding. Received in 1901.

*Invested in*

City of Boston Three per cent Bond . . . . .	\$4,000.00
City of Boston Four and one half per cent Bond . . . . .	100.00
Cash in Treasury, December 31, 1925 . . . . .	40.00
	<hr/>
	\$4,140.00

**Elizabeth Fund** — Bequest of SARAH A. MATCHETT, late of Brookline, who died October 6, 1910, the object of which is stated in the following extract from her will:

"I give and bequeath to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, twenty-five thousand dollars, to be called the Eliza-

beth fund, to be received, held and securely invested, and only the net income therefrom expended every year in the purchase of such books of permanent value and authority as may be most useful in said Library."

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . \$25,000.00*

Daniel Sharp Ford Fund — A bequest of DANIEL SHARP FORD to the Public Library of the City of Boston. Received in 1900.

*Invested in City of Boston Three per cent Bond . . . \$6,000.00*

Franklin Club Fund — Donation made in June, 1863, by a literary association of young men in Boston, who, at the dissolution of the association, authorized its trustees, Thomas Minns, John J. French and J. Franklin Reed, to dispose of the funds on hand in such manner as to them should seem judicious. They elected to bestow it on the Public Library, attaching to it the following conditions: "In trust, that the income, but the income only, shall, from year by year, be expended in the purchase of books of permanent value, for the use of the free Public Library of the city, and as far as practicable of such a character as to be of special interest to young men." The trustees expressed a preference for books relative to government and political economy.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one quarter  
per cent Bond . . . . . \$1,000.00*

Isabella Stewart Gardner Fund — Bequest of ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER.

"To the Trustees of the Boston Public Library, for the Brown Musical Library, for a memorial to B. J. Lang." Received in 1924.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . . . \$5,000.00*

Morris Gest Fund — Donation made by MR. MORRIS GEST in December 1925, the gross receipts from a benefit performance for the Library of "The Miracle", — \$2,652.50, the income to be used in the interest of dramatic art.

*Deposited in Hibernia Savings Bank . . . . . \$2,652.50*

Green Fund — Donations of DR. SAMUEL A. GREEN of \$2,000, the income of which is to be expended for the purchase of books relating to American history. Received in 1878 and 1884.

*Invested in*

*City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . . . 1,500.00*

*City of Boston Three per cent Bond . . . . . 500.00*

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*\$2,000.00*

Charlotte Harris Fund — Bequest of CHARLOTTE HARRIS, late of Boston, the object of which is stated in the following extract from her

will: "I give to the Charlestown Public Library \$10,000, to be invested of interest, which interest is to be applied to the purchase of books published before 1850. I also give to said Public Library my own private library and the portrait of my grandfather, Richard Devens." Bequests accepted by City Council, July 31, 1877.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one quarter*

per cent Bond . . . . . \$10,000.00

Thomas B. Harris Fund — Bequest of THOMAS B. HARRIS, late of Charlestown, for the benefit of the Charlestown Public Library. Received in 1884.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . . .* \$1,000.00

Hyde Fund — Bequest of FRANKLIN P. HYDE of Boston, to be known as the "Franklin P. Hyde Fund," the income to be applied to the purchase of books and other library material. Received in 1915.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . . . . .* \$3,600.00

Cash, December 31, 1925 . . . . . 32.40

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\$3,632.40

David P. Kimball Fund — Bequest of DAVID P. KIMBALL.

"I give to the Public Library of the City of Boston, the income to be used for the purchase of books \$10,000." Received in 1924.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . . . . .* \$10,000.00

Louis E. Kirstein Fund — Donation of \$1,000 made by Mr. LOUIS E. KIRSTEIN in October 1925, "to be used for any purpose of the Library that the Trustees see fit to put it to."

Deposited in Hibernia Savings Bank . . . . . \$1,000.00

Arthur Mason Knapp Fund — Extract from the will of KATHERINE KNAPP "To the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), to be known as the Arthur Mason Knapp Fund, of which the income only shall be used for the purchase of books for said library. And I hereby request that such books be designated with an appropriate label or inscription, bearing the name of the Fund." Received in 1914.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . . .* \$10,000.00

Abbott Lawrence Fund — Bequest of ABBOTT LAWRENCE, of Boston. Received in 1860. The interest on this fund is to be exclusively appropriated for the purchase of books for the said library having a permanent value.

*Invested in City of Boston Three and one half per*

cent Bond . . . . . \$10,000.00

Edward Lawrence Fund — Bequest of EDWARD LAWRENCE, of Charlestown. Received in 1886. The following clause from his will explains its purpose:

"To hold and apply the income and so much of the principal as they may choose, to the purchase of special books of reference to be kept and used only at the Charlestown branch of said Public Library."

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond* . . . \$500.00

Mrs. John A. Lewis Fund — Bequest of ELIZABETH LEWIS, to be known as the Mrs. John A. Lewis Fund: "I give and bequeath to the Boston Public Library the sum of \$5,000 as a fund, the income of which is to be used for the purchase of such old and rare books as shall be fitly selected to augment the collection known as the John A. Lewis Library." Received in 1903.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond* . . . \$5,000.00

Charles Greely Loring Memorial Fund — Donation from the family of CHARLES GREELY LORING, the income of which is to be expended for the purchase of books for the West End Branch. Received in 1896.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond* . . . \$500.00

Charles Mead Fund — Bequest of CHARLES MEAD, to constitute the Charles Mead Public Library Trust Fund for the promotion of the objects of the Public Library in such manner as the government of said library shall deem best, and so far as the government shall deem consistent with the objects of the library to be used for the benefit of the South Boston Branch Library. Received in 1896.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one half per cent Bond* . . . \$2,500.00

The Oakland Hall Trust Fund — By an interlocutory decree of the Probate Court for the County of Suffolk, the amount of \$11,781.44 was received, the same being one-half of the net amount received from the disposition of certain property held by the Trustees, under an indenture between Amor Hollingsworth, Sumner A. Burt and Amor L. Hollingsworth, all of Milton, Mass., and John H. McKendry, of Boston, Mass., entered into the sixth day of August, 1870. The above amount was accepted by the City, January 2, 1924, and the Trustees of the Public Library voted to invest the same under the name of "The Oakland Hall Trust Fund," the income to be applied to the purchase of books and other library material for the Mattapan Branch.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds* . . . \$11,780.00

Cash, December 31, 1925 . . . 1.44

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\$11,781.44

John Boyle O'Reilly Fund — Donation received from the PAPYRUS CLUB to establish a fund in memory of John Boyle O'Reilly, late member of said club, the income of said fund to be devoted to the purchase of books for the Boston Public Library. Received in 1897.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond* . . . \$1,000.00

**Phillips Fund** — Donation made by JONATHAN PHILLIPS, of Boston, in April, 1853.

The interest of this fund is to be used exclusively for the purchase of books for said library.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . \$10,000.00*

Also a bequest by the same gentleman in his will dated September 20, 1849.

The interest on which is to be annually devoted to the maintenance of a free Public Library.

*Invested in City of Boston Three and one half per cent Bond . . . . . \$20,000.00*

Both of these items are payable to the Mayor of the city for the time being.

**Pierce Fund** — Donation made by HENRY L. PIERCE, Mayor of the city, November 29, 1873, and accepted by the City Council, December 27, 1873.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . . . \$5,000.00*

**Sarah E. Pratt Fund** — Bequest from SARAH E. PRATT, late of Boston under the 14th clause of her will for the benefit of the Dorchester Branch, \$500.00.

Distribution of residue of estate on May 7, 1924, \$964.30.

By vote of the trustees the bequest to be funded as the Sarah E. Pratt Fund, the income to be applied to the purchase of books for the Dorchester Branch. Received in January, 1922.

City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond . . . 1,400.00

Cash in City Treasury, December 31, 1925 . . . 64.30

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\$1,464.30

**Scholfield Fund** — Bequest of ARTHUR SCHOLFIELD, who died in New York, January 17, 1883. The interest to be paid to certain heirs during their lives, and then to be used for the purchase of books of permanent value. The last heir, Joseph Scholfield, died November 18, 1889, and by his will bequeathed to the City of Boston the sum of \$11,766.67, which represents the income of said fund received by him up to the time of his death, to which was added \$33.33 accrued interest on deposit up to the time of investment, to be added to the fund given by his brother.

*Invested in*

City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . . . \$33,800.00

City of Boston Four and one quarter per cent Bond . . . 12,000.00

City of Boston Four and one half per cent Bonds . . . 6,000.00

City of Boston Five per cent Bonds . . . 10,000.00

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\$61,800.00



Sewall Fund — Extract from the will of RICHARD BLACK SEWALL:

"*Tenth.*— I bequeath the following pecuniary legacies clear of legacy tax, namely, To the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston \$25,000 (twenty-five thousand dollars) to be added to their funds and the income to be used for the purchase of books."

Received in 1918.

*Invested in* City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond . . . . . \$25,000.00

Skinner Fund — Extract from the will of FRANCIS SKINNER:

"*Eleventh.*— All my books and library I give and bequeath to my son, to be enjoyed by him during his life and after his death to be distributed as he shall appoint among such public libraries as he shall judge fit, and in case he makes no such appointment then to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston.

"*Sixteenth.*— All the rest and residue of my said property of whatever kind, I give and bequeath to Augustus P. Loring and J. Lewis Stackpole in trust to pay the net income to my son Francis Skinner, Jr., during his life, or to apply the same to his maintenance and support, or the maintenance and support of any issue of his, as they shall think best during his life; and at his death to apply the income to the maintenance and support of his issue until his youngest child shall reach the age of 21 years and then to distribute said property among said issue, the issue of a deceased child to take the share a parent would have taken if living.

"If there shall be no issue surviving at the time of my son's death, then to turn the said property into cash and to divide it equally among the following legatees: The Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, the Museum of Fine Arts of Boston, Massachusetts, the Massachusetts General Hospital, the Medical School of Harvard University, and the Free Hospital for Women, Brookline, Massachusetts.

*Invested in*  
 City of Boston Three and one-half per cent Bond \$40,000.00  
 City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . . . . . 10,250.00  
 City of Boston Four and one-half per cent Bond 200.00  
 16 shares Worcester Street Railway Company . . . . . 1,280.00  
 Cash, December 31, 1925 . . . . . 2.14  


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 \$51,732.14

South Boston Branch Library Trust Fund — Donation of a citizen of South Boston, the income of which is to be expended for the benefit of the South Boston Branch Library. Received in 1879.

*Invested in* City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond . . . . . \$100.00

**Mary Elizabeth Stewart Fund** — Bequest of MARY ELIZABETH STEWART of \$3,500 to the Trustees of the Boston Public Library. The Trustees voted under date of June 29, 1923, that the income be applied to the purchase of books and other library material.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond* . . . . . \$3,500.00

**Partick F. Sullivan Bequest** — Extract from will: "I give and bequeath to the Trustees of the Boston Public Library the sum of five thousand dollars, the principal or income of said sum to be expended by them for the purchase of Catholic standard books, said books to be approved by the Archbishop of the diocese of Boston, Mass., or by the President of the Trustees of Boston College, in Boston, Mass." Received in 1908.

This bequest, together with interest amounting to \$339.61, has been expended for books.

**Ticknor Bequest** — By the will of GEORGE TICKNOR, of Boston, he gave to the City of Boston, on the death of his wife, all his books and manuscripts in the Spanish and Portuguese languages, about four thousand volumes, and also the sum of four thousand dollars. After the receipt of said sums the city is required to spend not less than one thousand dollars in every five years during the twenty-five years next succeeding (i.e., the income of four thousand dollars, at the rate of five per cent per annum) in the purchase of books in the Spanish and Portuguese languages and literature. At the end of twenty-five years the income of said sum to be expended annually in the purchase of books of permanent value, either in the Spanish or Portuguese languages, or in such other languages as may be deemed expedient by those having charge of the library. The books bequeathed or purchased are always to be freely accessible for reference or study, but are not to be loaned for use outside of the library building. If these bequests are not accepted by the city, and the trusts and conditions faithfully executed, the books, manuscripts and money are to be given to the President and Fellows of Harvard College.

In order that the city might receive the immediate benefit of this contribution, Anna Ticknor, widow of the donor, relinquished her right to retain during her life the books and manuscripts, and placed them under the control of the city, the City Council having previously accepted the bequests in accordance with the terms and conditions of said will, and the Trustees of the Public Library received said bequests on behalf of the city, and made suitable arrangements for the care and custody of the books and manuscripts.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-half per cent Bond* . . . . . \$4,000.00

**William C. Todd Newspaper Fund** — Donation by WILLIAM C. TODD, accepted by order of the City Council, approved October 30, 1897, the income to be at least two thousand dollars a year, to be ex-

pended by the Library Trustees for newspapers of this and other countries.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond* . . . \$50,000.00  
**Townsend Fund** — Donation from William Minot and William Minot, Jr., executors of the will of MARY P. TOWNSEND, of Boston, at whose disposal she left a certain portion of her estate in trust for such charitable and public institutions as they might think meritorious. Said executors accordingly selected the Public Library of the City of Boston as one of such institutions, and attached the following conditions to the legacy: "The income only shall, in each and every year, be expended in the purchase of books for the use of the library; each of which books shall have been published in some one edition at least five years at the time it may be so purchased." Received in 1879.

*Invested in City of Boston Three and one-half per cent Bond* . . . . . \$4,000.00  
**Treadwell Fund** — By the will of the late DANIEL TREADWELL, of Cambridge, late Rumford Professor in Harvard College, who died February 27, 1872, he left the residue of his estate, after payment of debts, legacies, etc., in trust to his executors, to hold during the life of his wife for her benefit, and after her decease to divide the residue then remaining in the hands of the Trustees, as therein provided, and convey one-fifth part thereof to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston.

By order of the City Council, approved May 17, 1872, said bequest was accepted and the Trustees of the Public Library authorized to receive the same and invest it in the City of Boston Bonds, income of which is to be expended by said Trustees in such manner as they may deem for the best interests of the Library.

*Invested in*  
 City of Boston Four and one-half per cent Bond . . . \$1,000.00  
 City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bonds . . . 3,100.00  
 City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . . . . . 9,850.00  
 Cash in City Treasury, December 31, 1925 . . . . . 37.69

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\$13,987.69

**Tufts Fund** — Bequests of NATHAN A. TUFTS, of Charlestown, to be known as the "Nathan A. Tufts Fund," the income to be applied at all times to the purchase of books and other additions to the library to be placed in the Charlestown Branch. Received in 1906.

*Invested in City of Boston Three and one-half per cent Bonds* . . . . . \$10,100.00  
 Cash in City Treasury, December 31, 1925 . . . . . 31.77

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\$10,131.77

**Twentieth Regiment Memorial Fund** — Donation on account of the **TWENTIETH REGIMENT MEMORIAL FUND**, the income to be used for the purchase of books of a military and patriotic character, to be placed in the alcove appropriated as a memorial to the Twentieth Regiment. Received in 1897.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond* . . . . . \$5,000.00

**Wales Fund** — Extract from the will of **GEORGE C. WALES**:

"After the foregoing bequests I direct that the sum of five thousand dollars be paid to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, the same to be held, managed and invested by them, so as to produce an income ( and the said income to be applied to the purchase of such books for said Library as they may deem best." Received in 1918.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond* . . . . . \$5,000.00

**Mehitable C. C. Wilson Fund** — Bequest of **MEHITABLE C. C. WILSON**, the income to be expended for the purchase of books for the Boston Public Library.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds* . . . \$1,000.00

**Whitney Funds** — Bequests of **JAMES LYMAN WHITNEY**, who died September 25, 1910.

**Alice Lincoln Whitney Fund** — The twelfth clause of his will directed that: One-tenth of said remaining income of the principal fund, I direct to be paid to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, to be held and accumulated by said Trustees and permanently invested and re-invested. The first five thousand dollars of income so accumulated, including the income thereon arising during the period of accumulation, I request to be funded in the name of my sister, Alice Lincoln Whitney, and the income of said fund after its accumulation or so much of said income as may be required, to be paid to such employees of the said Library, who are sick and in need of help, as the Trustees may in their discretion deem most worthy (there are often such cases). Any amount of income from said accumulated fund not needed for the purpose just mentioned shall be used for the purchase of books and manuscripts.

*Invested in*

City of Boston Five per cent Bond . . . . . \$ 500.00

City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond . . . 1,000.00

City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . . . . . 3,500.00

**James Lyman Whitney Fund** — The Alice Lincoln Whitney Fund having been established, all amounts of income of the principal fund paid to said Trustees, after the accumulation of said fund of five thousand dollars shall be held as the James Lyman Whitney Fund.

and invested and reinvested and the income used in equal shares, one share for the purchase of rare and expensive books, and one share for the purchase and care of manuscripts; one half at least of the share devoted to manuscripts to be expended for their cataloguing and proper care.

*Invested in*

City of Boston Four and one-half per cent Bonds .	\$1,200.00
City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bonds	2,000.00
City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . . . . .	7,450.00
Cash in City Treasury, December 31, 1925 . . .	21.22

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\$10,671.22

In addition to the above Mr. Whitney created a trust, directing that of the net income seven hundred dollars a year be paid to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, to be expended on bibliographic work for the benefit of the Library.

Central Library Building Fund — Donations in response to an appeal by the Trustees in April 1925, setting forth the needs of the Library, from

Percy Lee Atherton . . . . .	\$ 25.00
William York Peters . . . . .	25.00
John T. Spaulding . . . . .	100.00
<i>Invested in City of Boston four per cent Bond . . .</i>	<i>150.00</i>

Donations — Besides the preceding, the following donations have been made to the Public Library, and the amounts have been appropriated for the purchase of books, according to the intention of the donors, viz.:

J. Ingersoll Bowditch . . . . .	\$6,800.00
Samuel Appleton, late of Boston . . . . .	1,000.00
Sally Inman Kast Shepard . . . . .	1,000.00
James Brown, late of Cambridge . . . . .	500.00
Andrew Carnegie . . . . .	980.75
Nathaniel I. Bowditch . . . . .	200.00
James Nightingale . . . . .	100.00
Dorchester and Milton Circulating Library, for the benefit of the Dorchester Branch Library . . .	335.13

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\$10,915.88

## RECAPITULATION OF PUBLIC LIBRARY TRUST FUNDS.

Artz Fund . . . . .	\$ 10,000.00
Bates Fund . . . . .	50,000.00
Bigelow Fund . . . . .	1,000.00
Robert Charles Billings Fund . . . . .	100,000.00
Bowditch Fund . . . . .	10,000.00
Bradlee Fund . . . . .	1,000.00
Joseph H. Center Fund . . . . .	39,543.14
Central Library Building Fund . . . . .	150.00
Children's Fund . . . . .	103,117.74
Clement Fund . . . . .	2,000.00
Henry Sargent Codman Memorial Fund . . . . .	2,854.41
Cutter Fund . . . . .	4,140.00
Elizabeth Fund . . . . .	25,000.00
Daniel Sharp Ford Fund . . . . .	6,000.00
Franklin Club Fund . . . . .	1,000.00
Isabella Stewart Gardner Fund . . . . .	5,000.00
Morris Gest Fund . . . . .	2,652.00
Green Fund . . . . .	2,000.00
Charlotte Harris Fund . . . . .	10,000.00
Thomas B. Harris Fund . . . . .	1,000.00
Hyde Fund . . . . .	3,632.40
David P Kimball Fund . . . . .	10,000.00
Louis E. Kirstein Fund . . . . .	1,000.00
Arthur Mason Knapp Fund . . . . .	10,000.00
Abbott Lawrence Fund . . . . .	10,000.00
Edward Lawrence Fund . . . . .	500.00
Mrs. John A. Lewis Fund . . . . .	5,000.00
Charles Greely Loring Memorial Fund . . . . .	500.00
Charles Mead Fund . . . . .	2,500.00
The Oakland Hall Trust Fund . . . . .	11,781.44
John Boyle O'Reilly Fund . . . . .	1,000.00
Phillips Fund . . . . .	30,000.00
Pierce Fund . . . . .	5,000.00
Sarah E. Pratt Fund . . . . .	1,464.30
Scholfield Fund . . . . .	61,800.00
Sewall Fund . . . . .	25,000.00
Skinner Fund . . . . .	51,732.14
South Boston Branch Library Trust Fund . . . . .	100.00
Mary Elizabeth Stewart Fund . . . . .	3,500.00
Ticknor Fund . . . . .	4,000.00
William C. Todd Newspaper Fund . . . . .	50,000.00
Townsend Fund . . . . .	4,000.00
Treadwell Fund . . . . .	13,987.69
Nathan A. Tufts Fund . . . . .	10,131.77
Twentieth Regiment Memorial Fund . . . . .	5,000.00
Wales Fund . . . . .	5,000.00
Mehitable C C. Wilson Fund . . . . .	1,000.00
Alice Lincoln Whitney Fund . . . . .	5,000.00
James Lyman Whitney Fund . . . . .	10,671.22
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	\$719,758.75

## NEEDS OF THE LIBRARY.

The Trustees wish to call special attention to the report of the Director which contains many points of interest in relation to the Library. From the report it will be seen that many important repairs and improvements were carried out during the year. Much still remains to be done, and the Trustees have included in their budget estimates this year a request for special consideration for carrying on the work.

## EXAMINING COMMITTEE.

The Trustees gratefully acknowledge the assistance rendered by the Examining Committee of the year. It appears that the Library can always rely on the generous and cheerful assistance of the best citizens whenever they are asked to render it service. The recommendations of the Committee deserve and have received careful attention. The Committee for 1925 consisted of:

Mr. Gordon Abbott.	Mr. Jacob J. Kaplan.
Mr. Percy Lee Atherton.	Mr. John C. Kiley.
Prof. E. Charlton Black.	Mr. Malcolm Lang.
John T. Bottomley, M.D.	Gen. Edward L. Logan.
Mr. W. Irving Bullard.	Mrs. Joseph T. Mooney.
Miss Ida M. Cannon.	Mr. Francis P. O'Connor.
Mr. Clifton H. Dwinnell.	Mrs. Fred L. Pigeon.
Mr. Allan Forbes.	Mrs. Arthur Rotch.
Mr. John I. Fitzgerald.	Rev. Lyman V. Rutledge.
Mr. Hollis French.	Mr. Samuel Sigilman.
Mr. Lee M. Friedman.	Miss Sara H. Stites.
Mr. Henry Lewis Johnson.	Mr. Charles H. Tyler.
	Mrs. Barrett Wendell.

The helpful and suggestive report of the Committee is appended to the report of the Trustees.

## CONCLUSION.

The Board notes with pleasure and satisfaction the election this year to the Presidency of the American Library Association of Mr. C. F. D. Belden, the able and efficient Director of the Boston Public Library.

It is interesting to observe in connection therewith that this is the second time that such an honor has come to our library, the

former instance being when Mr. Justin Winsor, 50 years ago, was chosen as the first president of that association.

We desire also to record our warm appreciation of the splendid spirit of cooperation which everywhere prevails between the Director and the entire library staff.

MICHAEL J. MURRAY,  
GUY W. CURRIER,  
ARTHUR T. CONNNOLLY,  
LOUIS E. KIRSTEIN, .  
WILLIAM A. GASTON,



## BALANCE SHEET, RECEIPTS AND

DR.

## CENTRAL LIBRARY AND BRANCHES:

## To expenditures for

Permanent employees (exclusive of Printing and Binding Departments) . . . . .	\$372,367.74
Temporary employees . . . . .	143,632.75

\$516,000.49

## Service other than personal

Contract work (outside) . . . . .	198.74
Advertising . . . . .	65.60
Transportation of persons . . . . .	795.17
Cartage and Freight . . . . .	11,556.93
Light and power . . . . .	9,169.01
Rent, taxes and water . . . . .	15,725.49
Surety bond and insurance . . . . .	17.50
Communication . . . . .	1,663.32
Cleaning towels, etc. . . . .	974.57
Removal of snow . . . . .	4.00
Medical . . . . .	15.00
Expert . . . . .	1,429.69
Fees . . . . .	51.35
General Plant Repairs . . . . .	45,291.59

86,957.96

## To expenditure for equipment

Machinery . . . . .	3,426.20
Furniture and fittings . . . . .	6,580.15
Office . . . . .	1,872.65
Books:	
City appropriation . . . . .	\$97,130.06
Trust funds income . . . . .	22,598.38

119,728.44

## Newspapers:

City appropriation . . . . .	1,367.01
Trust funds income . . . . .	
Todd Fund . . . . .	1,566.88

2,933.89

Periodicals . . . . .	9,710.76
Photographs . . . . .	355.95
Tools and instruments . . . . .	1,066.49
General plant equipment . . . . .	2,252.55

147,927.08

## To expenditures for supplies:

Office . . . . .	6,733.26
Food and ice . . . . .	383.87
Fuel . . . . .	17,496.51
Forage for animals . . . . .	19.55
Medical . . . . .	37.54
Laundry, cleaning and toilet . . . . .	1,802.64
Agricultural . . . . .	258.20
Chemicals and disinfectants . . . . .	50.08
General plant . . . . .	1,908.70

28,690.35

Carried forward . . . . .

\$779,575.88

# EXPENSES, DECEMBER 31, 1925.

CR.

By CITY APPROPRIATION 1925 . . . . .	\$863,772.00	
Income from Trust funds . . . . .	19,235.75	
Income from James L. Whitney Bibliographic account . . . . .	350.00	
Interest on deposit in London . . . . .	191.47	
	<hr/>	\$883,459.19
By BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD FROM 1925:		
Trust Funds income, City Treasurer . . . . .	56,579.93	
Trust Funds income on deposit in London . . . . .	8,821.10	
City appropriation on deposit in London . . . . .	3,970.43	
James L. Whitney Bibliographic account . . . . .	5,620.15	
Library Building Addition, equipping and furnishing . . . . .	11,799.39	
	<hr/>	86,791.00

Carried forward . . . . .	<hr/>	\$970,340.19
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# BALANCE SHEET, RECEIPTS AND

**DR.**

Brought forward		\$779,575.88
To expenditures for material		
Building	110.00	
Electrical	3,773.39	
General plant	12,691.66	16,575.05
Special items		
Pensions	791.56	
James L. Whitney Bibliographic account	231.82	1,023.38
BINDING DEPARTMENT:		
Salaries	47,944.44	
Stock	4,971.15	
Equipment	2,191.73	
Light	45.67	
Repairs	38.95	
Electrical, tools, ice and small supplies	487.92	
Freight	27.00	55,706.86
PRINTING DEPARTMENT:		
Salaries	9,903.23	
Stock	2,624.06	
Equipment	6,118.97	
Light	30.42	
Repairs	123.84	
Outside work	40.76	
Furniture, tools, ice and small supplies	1,544.37	
Freight	2.93	
Insurance	89.61	20,478.19
TO AMOUNT PAID INTO CITY TREASURY:		
From fines	15,691.17	
Sales of catalogues, bulletins and lists	56.93	
Commission on telephone stations	506.29	
Payments for lost books	1,262.01	
Sale of waste paper	245.15	
Interest on deposit	6.08	17,767.63
TO BALANCE, DECEMBER 31, 1925:		
Trust funds income on deposit in London	3,392.67	
City appropriation on deposit in London	3,250.45	
Trust funds income, City Treasury	56,722.87	
James L. Whitney Bibliographic account	5,738.33	
Interest on deposit in London	191.47	69,295.79
BALANCE UNEXPENDED:		
General appropriation	15,885.65	
Special appropriation, Library Building Addition	11,799.39	27,685.04
		\$988,107.82

# EXPENSES, DECEMBER 31, 1925.

		CR.
<i>Brought forward</i> . . . . .		\$970,340.19
BY RECEIPTS:		
From fines . . . . .	15,691.17	
Sales of catalogues, bulletins and lists . . . . .	56.93	
Commission on telephone stations . . . . .	506.29	
Payments for lost books . . . . .	1,262.01	
Sale of waste paper . . . . .	245.15	
Interest on deposit . . . . .	6.08	
	<hr/>	\$17,767.53

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\$988,107.82

# REPORT OF THE EXAMINING COMMITTEE

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
OF THE CITY OF BOSTON.

*Gentlemen:*

The Examining Committee takes pleasure in submitting its report for the year ending December 31, 1925.

The Committee appointed for the current year, consisting of women and men of widely various interests, has given interested and thorough attention to the duties assigned to it. The Committee was organized in the usual sub-committees and the various assignments were carefully investigated.

Each sub-committee has made a report in writing, and this will be filed with you for specific data. Through the consideration of these individual reports and discussions of them, the Examining Committee wishes to record its highest regard for the service rendered by the Boston Public Library through the main library and its numerous branches. Members of our Committee found many of the branches actively engaged in supplying books in close alliance with public school work. There is also great need for the further development of the special libraries in connection with the higher grades of educational and technical work, in which Boston now has a large and growing community.

The subjects to which the Examining Committee urges special attention are as follows:

1. The amount used for repairs on the main building, during the year, has been economically expended and the results so far, are satisfactory. It is urged that a further special appropriation be made for the coming year to continue the important work of restoration.

2. The salaries of the staff of the Library are below the proper standards, and as soon as the report of the National Body on Library Standard Salaries is published, the question of a revision of the salaries in the Boston Public Library service should be studied and recommendations made by the next Committee.
3. The needs of the Library for endowment were never more urgent. The special libraries can be of great service to the large student body. The various groups in the Fine Arts Department need funds to acquire early examples and modern reference works in both the arts and sciences. A study of the question of endowment and contributions is urged so that steps may be taken to increase them.
4. The sub-committee on branch libraries gave careful attention to the needs of different sections of the City, and these were the subject of full discussion by the general Committee. While it is advisable for the City to own eventually all its branches, as contrasted with using rented and often unsuitable premises, the Committee appreciates the fact that a definite program for new buildings, with ensuing increase in taxation, is a part of the larger policy of the City. It is essential, however, that a forward looking building program be followed so that the present unsatisfactory conditions in some branches be overcome, and the best library service possible rendered to all parts of the City.
5. A more general understanding of the importance of the service rendered by the Boston Public Library is essential to the future of this institution. Those who serve for one or more years on the Examining Committee have a much deeper appreciation of the far-reaching influence upon the pleasures and accomplishments of the youth and citizenship of this City, than before such contact. It is unfortunate that the membership of this Committee has such temporary contact with library affairs. That more continuous contact should be established between the library and individuals who in a sense will represent community interests, is urged.

6. It was VOTED: That the Examining Committee recommend that the Trustees consider ways and means of creating a more continuing and more effective interest on the part of the members of the Examining Committee, and suggest that they be appointed in rotation for a term of three or four years.

The circulation of over three million volumes annually, the large use made of the reading rooms, the special libraries and the reference works for school use in branch libraries are the visible evidences of the successful administration of the Boston Public Library. They also impose a responsibility for wise and liberal development which needs a wider publicity of library affairs.

Adopted as the Report of the Examining Committee, January 25, 1926.

## REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR

### TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

An amendment to the City Charter made by the General Court of the Commonwealth in 1924 (Chapter 479) advanced the fiscal year of the city one month. In consequence, the Report herewith respectfully submitted is for an eleven-month period, February 1 to December 31, 1925.

### CIRCULATION AND ACCESSION OF BOOKS.

The total circulation for the entire library system for the eleven month year was 3,129,781; this is 12,413 volumes less than the circulation for 1924-25. The branch circulation, exclusive of deposits to schools and institutions, was 2,306,889, a gain of 23,112 over the previous year. Deposits amounted to 401,765 volumes.

Direct home circulation from the Central Library was 608,852 volumes, a loss of 14,172 from the figures of 1924-25.

Comparative tables of circulation statistics may be found on pages 48-51 of the Appendix.

It is interesting to note that the total circulation for the twelve-month period, ending January 31, 1926, was 3,307,782. The gain in circulation over a similar period in 1924-25 was 175,588 volumes.

The total accessions for 1925 were 85,163 volumes, a gain of 4,308 over 1924-25. Of these 72,925 were acquired by purchase, 10,045 by gift, 1,931 by binding periodicals, 97 by binding newspapers, 120 by exchange and 45 through the American Statistical Association. The purchases were distributed as follows: branches, 61,728 volumes, including 6,575 for the Deposit Collection; Central Library, 11,143 volumes, including 3,586 bought with the income from trust funds.



The expenditure for books for the year totals \$128,729.04, an increase of \$16,319.30 over last year. The city appropriation amounted to \$103,487.85; \$719.98 represents funds on deposit in London, and \$24,521.21 was the income from trust funds.

Sub-divided, the expenditures from the City appropriation charged to the book fund, cover \$9,644.76 for periodicals, including \$3,600.09 for branches; \$1,367.01 for newspapers, including \$320.50 for branches; \$92,782.77 for books, including \$78,712.04 for branches.

The expenditures from Trust Funds show \$1,566.88 paid for newspapers; \$355.95 for photographs; \$91.73 for lantern slides, and \$22,506.65 for books.

The year 1925 brought new obligations and emphasized those which are always pressing. The Fellowes Athenaeum Branch at Roxbury, which is affiliated with the Fellowes Athenaeum, has hitherto depended on funds supplied by the Trustees of the Athenaeum for its books. Owing to the increased cost of administering the Athenaeum, this arrangement could not longer be carried on and the purchase of current books for this branch was taken over by the Library and charged to the City book appropriation.

This year the Library, through the Director, has been enrolled as a member of the Founders of the Business Historical Society, Incorporated, of Boston, organized "to advance the scientific study and development of finance, trade, commerce, industry and business generally, by research and instruction."

The completion of negotiations with the German Patent Office, begun in 1924, has resulted in the receipt of the greater part of the Patentschriften issued since 1914; the auction sales have yielded a fair number of desirable books, a few of which are noteworthy; a special collection of modern Spanish literature has been added for circulation, and the accessions to the Division of Fine Arts have been constant and important. It would not be possible to include in this report even a small portion of the many works of interest bought during the year. The selection of titles which follows shows a few of the more important books acquired.

Artiñano y de Galdácano, Gerasio de. *La arquitectura naval española (en madera); Bosquejo de sus condiciones y rasgos de su evolución.* Madrid. 1920. Illus.

Bible, N. T. *The New Testament of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, newly translated from the original Greek: and with the former translations diligently compared and revised.* Massachusetts Bay: Boston: Printed by Thomas & John Fleet, at the Bible and Heart in Cornhill. 1870. Believed to be the earliest edition of the New Testament published in Boston. No other copy has been discovered.

Birrell, Augustine. *Three essays. I. Book-buying. II. Book-binding. III. The office of literature.* New York. The Grolier Club. 1924.

Boston Massacre. *A short narrative of the horrid massacre in Boston, perpetrated in the evening of the fifth day of March, 1770, by the soldiers of the XXIXth Regiment; which with the XIVth Regiment were then quartered there: with some observations on the state of things prior to that catastrophe.* pp. 1-48; Appendix, pp. 85-88. 8°, stitched. Printed by Order of the Town of Boston, and sold by Edes and Gill, in Queen Street. 1770.

This is the second issue of the first edition published the same year. Pages 85-88, containing a letter to the Duke of Richmond and the names of the people in England to whom the pamphlet was sent, are not in the first issue.

Bowen, Frank C. *The golden age of sail. With illustrations from contemporary engravings and paintings in the Macpherson collection.* London. 1925.

Emerson, William and Georges Cromort. *Old bridges of France. A series of historical examples from Roman times to the end of the XVIII. century.* New York. 1925.

Evans, Lewis. *The castle of Christianitie, detecting the long erring estate, asvvell of the Romaine Church, as of the Byshop of Rome: together with the defence of the Catholique faith.* London. 1568. The first edition.

Grolier Club, New York. *Catalogue of original and early editions of some of the poetical and prose works of English writers from Wither to Prior.* New York. 1905. 3 v.

Haebler, Conrad. *Die deutschen Buchdrucker des XV. Jahrhunderts im Auslande.* München. 1924.

Heale, William. *An apologie for vvomen: or, an opposition to Mr. Dr. G(ager) his assertion. Who held in the Act at Oxforde. Anno. 1608. That it was lawfull for husbands to beate their wiues.* By W. H. of Oxford. 1609. Galatea Collection.

Hubert, Sir Francis. *The deplorable life and death of Edward the Second, King of England. Together with the downefall of the two*

unfortunate fauroits, Gavestone and Spencer. London: 1628. The first (surreptitious) edition.

Kommission für den Gesamtkatalog der Wiegendrucke. Gesamtkatalog der Wiegendrucke. Band I. Leipzig. 1925.

This great catalogue of Incunabula will be published in 12 volumes.

Morison, Stanley. Four centuries of fine printing. Upwards of six hundred examples of the work of presses established during the years 1500 to 1914. With an introductory text and indexes by Stanley Morison. London. 1924.

Morison, Stanley, compiler and editor. Modern fine printing. An exhibition of printing issued in England, the United States of America, France, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Czecho-Slovakia, Holland and Sweden during the twentieth century. London. 1925.

Musical Association (London). Proceedings. Sessions 1-43. 1874/75-1916/17. London. 1875-1917.

By this purchase the imperfect set in the Brown Music Library was completed.

Passio domini nostri Jhus Christi ex quattuor evangelistis collecta. Gothic letter, double columns, with outline woodcut of the Virgin and Child and St. Anne on the last page. Sinenota, sed cociniae retro minores (M. Van Werden). 1499. Example of the Cologne press.

Salmony, Alfred. Sculpture in Siam. London. 1925.

Shakespeare, William. The plays of William Shakespeare, accurately printed from the text of the corrected copies, left by the late George Steevens, Esq., and Edmond Malon, Esq. With a glossary. London. 1838. This volume was bought because it contained a so-called "Fore-edge" painting of which the Library had no example. On the fore-edge is a painting illustrating Shakespeares' birthplace.

Theocritus. The idyls of Theocritus, (Bion and Moschus), rendered into English prose by Andrew Lang. Illustrated after drawings by W. Russell Flint. London. 1922. 2 v.

Ungerus, Christianus Theophilus. De Aldi Pii Manutii Romani vita meritisque in rem literatam liber . . . auctus cura S. L. Geret. Vitembergae. 1753.

Wilson, Hardy. Old colonial architecture in New South Wales and Tasmania. Sydney. 1924.

Year book, The, of oriental art and culture. 1924/25 (vol. 1-2.): London. 1925. Text, 1 v. Illus. Music; Atlas, 1 v. Edited by Arthur Waley.

During the year 17,916 volumes, 21,524 serials and 760 photographs have been received as gifts. These figures include 7,685 volumes and 12,126 serials received in the Branch Department and Information Office,—material duplicated in the Cen-

tral Library. In addition, 53 newspaper subscriptions were continued by the publishers.

Gifts of money were received from the following:

Mr. Louis E. Kirstein, the sum of \$1000, "to be used for any purpose of the Library that the Trustees see fit."

Mr. Morris Gest, \$2,652.50, representing the entire gross receipts from the special matinee of *The Miracle* given for the benefit of the Boston Public Library (Boston Opera House, November 30). This was funded as the "Morris Gest Fund," the income to be used in the interest of Dramatic Art.

Mrs. Charles Weld, \$15, used for the purchase of a book which the Library would not ordinarily buy.

The generous contributions from the Columbia Phonograph Company of New York, the General Phonograph Corporation of New York and the Victor Talking Machine Company of Camden, New Jersey, have enriched the Library Collection to the extent of 317 records. The Columbia Phonograph Company gave 138 records, the General Phonograph Corporation, 41, and the Victor Talking Machine Company, 39. The gift of these records was made to enable the Library to illustrate the weekly lectures on the Symphony Concerts given by the Music Division.

Other gifts, with the names of the givers, are listed on pages 59-63 of the Appendix.

#### REGISTRATION DEPARTMENT.

At the beginning of the fiscal year there were 123,994 cards available for current use. During the year 28,122 new registrations and 31,845 renewals, making a total of 59,967 cards, were added through the Central Library and branches. Borrowers who allowed their home use privileges to lapse number 54,534, leaving a total of 129,427 "live" cards on December 31, 1925; a gain of 5,433 over last year. The gain in registered "live" cards for a five-year period has been 23,969.

Cards issued to teachers prior to February 1, 1925, numbered 9,432. Of this number 1,285 were renewed and 321 added during the year, making a total of 1,606 teacher's cards in use, compared with 1,561 in 1924-25.

Of the 3,715 special privilege cards which had been issued up to February 1, 1925, there were 367 renewals and 139 new cards granted during the year, making a total of 506 special privilege cards in use, compared with 429 in 1924-25.

The outstanding feature of this year's development has been the extension of the filing cabinet to include 150,000 records, thus relieving overcrowded files and providing space for the expansion of the numerical record.

#### CATALOGUE AND SHELF DEPARTMENT.

The number of volumes and parts of volumes catalogued during 1925 was 106,158, representing 75,809 titles. The number of cards added to the catalogues was 178,082, of which number 140,321 were added to the catalogues in the Central Library, and 37,761 to those in the branches. Of the cards filed in the Central Library 55,524 were placed in the Bates Hall and Issue Department catalogues; 34,594 in the Official catalogues; 15,665 in the Special Libraries catalogues; and 34,538 were sent to the Library of Congress and Harvard College Library, or reserved for the making of lists on special subjects. From the Library of Congress the Boston institution has received in return galley proofs of its cards, useful for comparison and reference, and printed cards for books on the fine arts and technical subjects. From Harvard College the Library has received copies of their printed cards. By means of the "rush" system now in use, titles of new books, if bound, were filed in the catalogues the day after their shelf-numbers were assigned. The falling off from last year in the number of cards printed is owing to the loss of one experienced compositor in the Printing Department and the thorough overhauling of the linotype machines.

Printed catalogue cards for all new books has been set aside as copy for the Monthly Bulletin, and since December 1, type-written cards have been made for the editor in advance of printing.

Much revision of classification and cataloguing has been done, some of which already appears in the catalogues while some still awaits printing.

The abuse of the public catalogues by soiled hands and rough handling continues to be a matter of much concern in spite of all efforts. Many cards and often entire subjects have to be replaced long before they would need to be if carefully used. The fiction catalogue in the Issue Department has been almost entirely renewed during the year.

The routine work of the Shelf Division has proceeded as usual. Although more progress was made in shelf-reading than in late years, still more could have been accomplished but for the changes in the Fine Arts and Technical Divisions, where a new classification, based on the Library of Congress system, was devised and put into operation. There have been the usual readjustments in the shelving of books. In connection with the changes in the Special Libraries, the Map Division has been moved to Stack 6 and the cabinets formerly in the West Gallery have been moved to the North Gallery.

Statistics relating to the work of the Catalogue and Shelf Department may be found on page 52 of the Appendix.

#### PUBLICATIONS.

The *Monthly Bulletin of Recent Books*, which was begun in January, 1924, taking the place of the *Quarterly Bulletin* and the *Weekly List of New Books*, has been continued in eleven issues, January–November, 1925; 2,075 copies being printed of each. The November number closes this series of the Bulletin.

*Brief Reading Lists*, Nos. 31–34. The subjects were as follows: No. 31, Operas: a selected list of scores, librettos and related works, compiled by Richard G. Appel, of the Music Division. No. 32, the Circus, compiled by L. E. Taylor, of the Catalogue Department, in connection with the coming of two circuses to Boston in June. No. 33, The Miracle, compiled by Mary A. Tenney, of the Catalogue Department, in anticipation of Morris Gest's production in Boston of the music-drama pantomime of that name. No. 34, A selected list of inexpensive books for Christmas presents, with names of publishers, prices and notes, compiled by Alice M. Jordan, Supervisor of Work with Children.

Bibliographical lists have been prepared in connection with the programs of the Boston Symphony Orchestra and the concerts by the Lenox Quartet given in the lecture hall of the Library.

*Library Life*, the staff bulletin of the Library, continues to be published by an editorial board of ten members who share the work of gathering material, and four of whom are, in turn, Editor-in-Chief of one monthly issue. The paper is believed to have justified its existence as a record of library activities and a means of promoting acquaintance and co-operation.

*A Guide to Serial Publications* founded prior to 1918 and now or recently current in Boston, Cambridge, and vicinity, compiled and edited by Thomas Johnston Homer. Part IV has for some time been ready for the printer and a considerable portion of Part V is now also ready. Unusual conditions in the Printing Department have caused the publication to be delayed, but Part IV will probably appear soon; meanwhile use may be made of the material by consultation with Mr. Homer.

*Opportunities for Adult Education in Greater Boston, 1925-26.* A list of free public lectures and public educational courses, offered by the Massachusetts Department of Education, Division of University Extension; The Lowell Institute; the Commission on Extension Courses; The Public Library of the City of Boston; and other institutions.

#### BATES HALL.

The reference work of the Library has gone on at its usual even pace. The number of inquiries answered by mail has been larger than in any previous year, amounting to 807 letters, which came to us from 45 of the 48 states, three Provinces of Canada and eight foreign countries; of the total number, 151 asked for information on points of Genealogy.

Bates Hall has been well filled during the year, but it has always been possible to provide chairs for those who came. The largest recorded attendance, on Saturday, December 12, at 5 p.m. was 309; counting the stools at the Catalogue, the Hall accommodates 316. The total number of books brought from the stacks in the eleven-month period covered by this report



was 229,189. The year has been marked by no excitement comparable to that caused by the cross-word puzzles of last year; although a recent contest devoted to American history has resulted in the mutilation of a number of volumes by persons who apparently think that the removal of a leaf from a book will keep it out of the hands of other contestants.

One hundred and fifty-two new titles have been added to the reference collection and 124 annuals or new editions substituted for earlier issues. Two hundred and fifty-five books have disappeared from the collection during the year and 12 volumes missing in former years have come to light. The steady growth of the collection of Supreme Court Reports has necessitated the removal of some other legal reference works, most of which, however, were out of date.

The department has received some publicity through the daily broadcasting during a considerable portion of the year from station WEEI of answers to questions, for which credit was duly given to the Library by the announcer.

At the beginning of the year a new division, that of Genealogy, was created in the department and Miss Agnes C. Doyle, long first assistant, who has specialized in the subject for many years, was appointed assistant-in-charge; a desk for her use was placed in the Hall near the shelves devoted to Genealogy and Heraldry. Some re-arrangement has made it possible to assemble a very good working collection of genealogical books on the shelves available; a card catalogue of coats of arms is now in progress. The change in organization is already justifying itself, and seems to have the approval of the public.

In connection with the appointment of Miss Doyle, Mr. Michael J. Conroy was advanced to the position of first assistant at the Bates Hall Catalogue.

A great improvement in the appearance of the Hall has been made by the laying of the handsome new floor covering of reinforced rubber in the Catalogue enclosure, replacing the badly worn cork matting. The laying of this floor required the temporary removal of the catalogue cases and gave an opportunity for their rearrangement on a radial plan. High tables have been substituted for the old low ones, and thus far the new arrange-



ment seems to have many advantages. The enclosure is less crowded and it is much easier to keep the drawers replaced in the cases. The lighting of the hall is also in process of improvement; lampshades of a modern pattern are being substituted for the old ones at the catalogues and book cases.

#### NEWSPAPER AND PATENT ROOMS.

The number of papers regularly filed in the Newspaper Room is 273. During the year nine papers ceased publication or were consolidated with other papers. There are 218 daily and 55 weekly papers received, of which 195 are published in the United States and 78 in foreign countries. The bound volumes now number 9,092, an increase of 97 volumes since the last report. Readers to the number of 18,814 consulted 34,083 bound volumes, as compared with 18,589 persons who used 34,057 during the preceding year.

From various sources missing numbers are constantly being added to the files of the 18th century papers. The Massachusetts Historical Society has made photostat copies of numbers of the *Boston Newsletter* missing from the Library's file, which is now practically complete.

In the collection of Patent Documents, the total number of volumes is 18,461, the increase for the year being 910 volumes. More than 70,000 numbers of the *Patentschriften* have been received from the German Patent office during the year. Some of the years must remain incomplete; the missing numbers are probably abandoned or secret. The volumes are now being made up and will shortly be bound.

The recorded number of persons using the files during the year (11 months) was 18,649, as compared with 18,465 during the previous twelve-month year. The number of volumes consulted was 110,745, an increase of 112 over those used in 1924-25.

#### INFORMATION OFFICE, GOVERNMENT DOCUMENT ROOM AND OPEN SHELF ROOM.

The Information Office continues to be of great service in deflecting from other departments inquiries which are readily an-

swered from directories, school and college catalogues, recent government documents, vocational information pamphlets, and publications of chambers of commerce. A large file of street and telephone directories has been maintained, partly through the generosity of Boston business houses who donated their discarded directories to the Library for exchange purposes. Many directories of other cities were procured in this way.

The Government Documents have been carefully studied and brought up to date during the past year. Now that many of the duplicate federal reports and bulletins, which formerly were sent free to this Room, must be paid for, only the most important and popular are ordered. A complete file of government documents is available elsewhere in the Library. A title and subject index has been made for the *Trade Information Bulletin*, issued by the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce. It has greatly increased the usefulness of these bulletins and has been consulted by about three hundred persons every month.

The Vocational Information Service continues to gain in efficiency; last year about nine hundred new catalogues and pamphlets were added from federal, state and city departments and from private organizations. There is a great demand for information regarding university extension courses.

The Open Shelf Room increases in popularity. An author and title catalogue of the collection has been made and has justified its existence. School students are beginning to use the room in larger numbers. Books covering topics of current interest are brought from the stacks and are made readily accessible to the public. Though the interest in memoirs, books of travel, poems and plays is as keen as ever, there has been a decided increase in the demand for books on the subjects treated in the American Library Association series, "Reading with a Purpose." The call for French, Spanish and Italian books is constant and can be met; but the demand for recent German books has been greater than the supply.

The summer service in the Court Yard during the noon hours was appreciated by readers and the circulation of books and magazines showed an increase over last year.

PERIODICAL DEPARTMENT.

The steady increase in the use of periodical literature for reference, especially by students, has made it necessary to rearrange the division, using the inner room for current periodicals and the outer for reference work. New equipment has been provided, releasing the wall space for shelving where the most used bound periodicals are now housed. There is a new rack for current periodicals, which have been first classified and then alphabetized. This new arrangement has proved satisfactory, both from the reader's and the Library's point of view.

ATTENDANCE.

AT THE HOURS	10	12	2	4	6	8	9.45
	A.M.	M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.	P.M.
1921-22 . . .	14,264	15,875	25,943	31,762	21,786	26,619	12,827
1924-25 . . .	16,432	18,526	32,162	36,427	23,841	27,254	13,763
1925 . . .	16,927	19,214	33,026	37,026	24,645	27,832	13,891

The use of bound and unbound periodicals shows the following increase over last year:

BOUND FILES.

Bound volumes consulted during the year	1924-1925	1925 (11 months)
Daytime (week-days) . . . . .	49,315	50,260
Evening and Sunday . . . . .	20,762	22,163

UNBOUND FILES.

Unbound periodicals consulted during the year	1924-1925	1925 (11 months)
Daytime (week-days) . . . . .	57,943	59,675
Evening and Sunday . . . . .	25,882	26,719

The current periodicals, exclusive of those issued by the state and federal governments, regularly filed for readers in the Periodical Department, number 1,258. In addition there are filed for use by readers in other departments current periodicals especially related to the fields covered by such departments, as follows:

Fine Arts and Music Divisions of the Special Libraries . . . . .	136
Ordering Department . . . . .	27
Statistical Department . . . . .	49
Teachers' Reference Room and Children's Room . . . . .	60
	<hr/>
Periodical Room . . . . .	272
	<hr/>
Total number of current periodicals received . . . . .	1530

## SPECIAL LIBRARIES.

The Special Libraries include all the collections housed on the third floor of the Central Building and comprise the divisions of Fine Arts, Music, Technology, and Special Collections (Barton-Ticknor Division).

Many changes have been made in the Special Libraries in the effort to secure better service and provide for the growth of the collections. Additional accommodation for readers and students has been made in the Special Libraries Reading Room and the West Gallery. Three new open-shelf alcoves have been organized—Fine Arts, Art-Students' Reference, and Chemical Reference—and an alcove has been taken for the classified Fine Arts accessions. These open shelf additions necessitated the shifting of the entire Fine Arts and Technology book collections. All the book cabinets have been removed from the West and Barton Galleries. About eighty of these have been placed in the new cabinet storage room, made by flooring over the second balcony of the Statistical Room.

As explained in the last *Annual Report*, further changes on this floor are greatly needed. Plans have been made for steel stacks to be erected in the Barton Gallery alcoves and the adjoining northwest corner room, an expedient which will release shelf space for the needed Book-Treasure Room and the united music collections, while it will, at the same time, keep together the special collections now in the Barton Gallery.

The Fine Arts Division has continued to build up its immense collection and, since last July, it has classified all accessions on an abridged Library of Congress scheme, having a special shelf-notation devised by Mr. Michael McCarthy of the Shelf Department. The entire Fine Arts open-shelf collection has been reclassified, revised, rearranged and shelf-listed, and an open-shelf collection of oversize books has been organized for the convenience of art students.

The Technology Division has continued to build up its admirably organized book collection and special reference tools, described in the last *Annual Report*. A new reference tool is the open-shelf alcove devoted to serial sets in Chemistry.

The Music Division in co-operation with the Extension Division of the State Board of Education has arranged for several series of interpretative lectures on symphony concerts and operas and, for these lectures, has prepared programs and book-lists. The gift collection of phonograph records has been enlarged by 317 records from publishers.

The Barton-Ticknor Division (Special Collections) has continued to draw attention to the treasures of the Library by monthly exhibitions of manuscripts and rare editions of famous authors, and Dr. Haraszti's critical descriptions of these exhibitions have appeared in Boston newspapers. In his new post of editor, Dr. Haraszti will continue to render this service to the Department and the Library.

From February 1 to December 31, 1925, the Department put on view thirty exhibitions. Of this number, twelve were of books and documents in the possession of the Library; thirty were loan exhibitions, only two of them consisting of books.

The number of books issued for home use from the Special Libraries during eleven months was 21,631. In the same period, 28,921 pictures and 5,746 lantern slides were issued for use outside the Library.

#### WORK WITH CHILDREN.

The urgent demand for books for children could not be denied and 39,311 volumes, 53 percent of the total number of books purchased, were bought at a cost of \$41,858.39.

Home use of books drawn on juvenile cards comprised 50 per cent of the total circulation of the Library system. In the branches alone the proportion was greater, amounting to 58 per cent of the total.

Fifty-three per cent of the card-holders of the Library are under sixteen years of age and are, therefore, classed as children. Registration in this class was increased 2,966 in 1925; although this does not seem as large an increase in normal development as might have been expected, it evidently kept pace with the gain in adult borrowers, being 54 per cent of the total gain. As the Library increases its corps of workers equipped by training and

temperament to do intensive work with children, its efforts for a fuller registration will be likely to yield greater returns.

Growth in work with children is to be measured not only by an increase in cardholders and home circulation, but by improved accommodations in the libraries themselves. There have been minor improvements at a number of points, but nowhere else has the change been so marked as at Uphams Corner, where the swimming tank in the municipal building was taken over as a children's room in 1924 and transformed from a naturally cold interior into a cheerful and pleasant reading room. This arrangement afforded an excellent opportunity to organize the work with children and put a specially trained assistant in charge of it. The results of this step have been noticeable in increased circulation, better discipline and more constructive work with the children who frequent the branch.

In all parts of the library system the book collections show the effects of the larger expenditure of the last three years. Not only are the books in better condition, but the range of selection is wider, embracing a greater variety of interests. The reading of children to-day shows an earlier arrival at mature tastes and the sophistication caused by city life creates a demand for books written to suit an adult public. Where one child wanted mystery and detective stories ten years ago, there are now twenty who are eager to read them. Without catering to this demand, it is sometimes possible to offer as substitutes stirring narratives of adventure and travel to satisfy the craving for excitement.

Ability to choose acceptable substitutes and introduce them successfully depends upon an ever growing familiarity with books, no less than a gift for tactful approach to the reader. In order to prepare assistants for this type of personal service to young people, two courses in children's literature were given during the year to members of the staff in the Central Library and branches. It is believed that these lessons have helped the members of the classes to give more sympathetic and discriminating assistance to boys and girls who use the Library.

The Library has constant realization of the importance of the story hour as a means of introducing books to the children. Hundreds of children gather for the weekly story hours in dif-

ferent parts of the city and the continued popularity of this feature is the best indication that it supplies a need. Each year enlarges the opportunities offered the story tellers to go into the public schools and in these school visits the welcome grows more and more cordial at each return. It seems evident, too, that the Library, by supplying this entertainment, is building in another way for better citizenship in the community, since the story-hour establishes habits of quiet, orderly attention in marked contrast to the uproarious behavior often noted in the motion picture houses. Respect for the library building is always expected and good conduct becomes instinctive, for the story hour period at least.

Relations with the public schools have been friendly and, in some parts of the city, close. The Course in Citizenship recently adopted by the City of Boston occasioned many requests for books to help build character through the emphasis laid on qualities such as self-control, self-reliance, good workmanship, etc. The ingenuity and resourcefulness of attendants have been taxed to supply these requirements, as the call has been for specific examples of each quality.

The Central Children's Room has been drawn upon for all these demands, since its readers are to be found in every quarter. Furthermore, it has made special contacts with many organizations and individuals seeking assistance or enlightenment on children's books. The collection of finely illustrated editions has been used by art students, by commercial illustrators, costumers and designers, by editors, teachers and parents, as well as by those who are simply book lovers. Numerous classes from different types of schools have come for instruction on the resources of the Library or for reference use of reserved books.

The fruitful and pleasant co-operation between the Children's Museum and the Children's Department continued through exhibits lent for display wherever showcases were available. Collections of objects from the Philippine Islands and Japan, besides natural objects—minerals, shells and birds—were specially enjoyed. Many of our library readers made a new and delightful connection with the Museum of Fine Arts when they were given invitations to attend the summer story hour there. It is a source of satisfaction to know that these three institutions can work in



such happy association to enrich the lives of the children of Boston.

Two related problems confront the Children's Department at the Central Library. Solution of the one may mean solution of the other. These perplexities have to do with the reasonable claims of two groups, the pupils in the high schools and the teachers. Any expansion of the Children's Department should naturally be in the direction of better service to the young people just growing beyond books for children and not yet sufficiently experienced to use a large library to good advantage. There is ample proof of the need of greater attention to the requirements of high school students and the Children's Department attempts to help whenever possible, but space for expansion is lacking, unless the adjoining room is used for the purpose, instead of for a Teachers' Reference Room as at present. On the other hand there has been a marked increase in the use of this room.

The work of the Teachers' Room is, however, properly a part of the general reference department. It began with a small collection of books for kindergarten teachers and now threatens to interfere with the legitimate function of the Children's Department. Not only does the presence of so many adult students complicate the work with children and tax the seating capacity of the room, but the multiplicity of their requirements lays an increasing burden upon the staff. To keep up with the magazines on educational subjects, the growing bibliographies on topics of current importance, the material for debates, the University Extension reserves, calls for the entire time of an experienced reference assistant. It is not fitting that students from three universities and many training schools should be obliged to come for their assignments to a room which is practically an adjunct to the Children's Department.

#### THE BRANCH SYSTEM.

The total circulation through the branches, including books issued from Central Library collections on borrowers' cards, was 2,816,073. This is a gain, in an eleven-month period, of 18,067 over 1924-25. The number of books issued from the Central



Library through branches was 107,419; this includes 82,611 from the deposit collection and 24,808 from Central Library collections. Sixteen branches gained and fifteen lost in circulation. The greatest gains were at Mattapan, North End, Fellowes Athenaeum, Dorchester, Codman Square, Mt. Bowdoin, Uphams Corner and Orient Heights; the greatest losses were at Roxbury Crossing, Lower Mills and South End.

The branch circulation for the twelve-month period ending January 31, 1926, was 2,978,036. This shows a gain of 180,030 volumes over last year. In this period, twenty-eight branches gained in circulation and three lost.

The number of volumes sent out on deposit to 326 agencies (207 schools, 53 fire engine houses, and 43 institutions of various kinds) was 86,400, as against 92,352 last year. The total number of volumes sent to schools was 56,328, compared with 59,216 last year. Of this number 21,630 were sent from the Branch Issue Division, Central Library, as compared with 19,393 the year before. The number of books issued on deposit from the branch libraries, chiefly to schools, was 34,698, compared with 39,823 the year before. The number of individual teachers supplied was 1,372 as against 1,312 in 1924-25.

Interlibrary loans for eleven months amounted to 1,704 volumes, 323 less than last year. Thirty-one volumes were borrowed from other libraries. Of the 1,411 applications received, 474 were refused.

In the branch system, adult education has developed along four lines: an obligatory course of training for branch assistants; the preparation of numerous lists, several of which may be used as reading courses; the establishment in each branch of an information file of material; and an organized campaign of educational publicity.

In the past six years the personnel turnover has amounted to only 22 per cent; compulsory retirement under the pension act accounts for 9 per cent of this, and marriage for 6 per cent. Considerable progress has been made in the type of examination for library service. The old memory test has given way to tests for general information and judgment. Assistants who have been selected by these tests are now trained in a course which has

been started this year. As outlined, it will cover four years. The training in the branches will be supplemented by courses given in the Central Library.

A uniform classification for pamphlets and ephemeral material has been devised for the entire branch system and in the past year this has been put into operation.

Traveling exhibits have followed a regular schedule during the year, as have the ninety-two posters covering a great variety of popular subjects. The book-wagon service instituted at Tyler Street during the summer months was very successful in establishing friendly relations with people who had been diffident about coming to the library. Adult circulation at the branch, both fiction and non-fiction, was increased; the use of Americanization books was encouragingly large. Traveling libraries composed of units of twenty-five each—biography, music, modern poetry—were bought to supplement the branch collections on these subjects.

#### LECTURES AND EXHIBITIONS.

The Library offered eighty-seven free public entertainments (lectures, concerts, miracle plays, etc.) in the thirty weeks of the lecture season. Of these, thirty-seven lectures were illustrated with lantern slides; eight were concerts; and three were miracle plays. The entertainments covered the following fields: lectures on travel, 25; lectures on literature, and readings, 21; music lectures and concerts, 16; lectures on drama, plays, and dramatic readings, 11; lectures on art, 5; scientific lectures, 5; miscellaneous lectures, 4.

Fourteen lectures were given under the auspices of the Ruskin Club; six by the American Poetry Association, five by the Field and Forest Club, five by the Drama League, two by the Lincoln House Orchestra, one by the Dickens Fellowship. Six concerts by the Lenox Quartet were given by Mrs. Elizabeth S. Coolidge. These were greatly enjoyed by an audience which filled the hall at each concert.

The Hall was also used every week-day, except Thursday, in the evening, and several mornings and afternoons as well, by

the State Department of Education, Division of University Extension, which offered for a nominal fee courses on a variety of subjects.

Thirty exhibitions were held in the Fine Arts Exhibition Room and the Barton-Ticknor Room. In the latter room the material shown was mainly bibliographical and included first editions and manuscripts relating to Longfellow, Nathaniel Bowditch, Thackeray, William Ellery Channing, the Battles of Lexington and Bunker Hill.

There are certain exhibitions which are shown each year in the main exhibition room. These are the House Beautiful Cover Design Competition; the competitive poster designs made by school children for "Be Kind to Animals" Week; and "Fifty Books" chosen each year by the American Institute of Graphic Arts for excellence of format. In addition to these, two memorial exhibitions of reproductions of the work of John Singer Sargent were given, one at the time of his death, the other to supplement the exhibition of originals at the Museum of Fine Arts. There were also exhibitions of colour prints; examples of the work of the Pre-Raphaelites; material relating to dramatic events of importance; and various collections of book rarities.

#### STAFF INSTRUCTION.

The four courses of instruction for members of the staff described in last year's report were all brought to a successful conclusion. In a number of cases it has been pleasant to see that these courses have enabled assistants to pass examinations necessary for promotion in the service. The present year a course is being given by Prof. Robert E. Rogers, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, on the "Great Classics of Literature since the Renaissance." Twenty members of the staff are enrolled in this course, which is the fifth in the important series on literary subjects given by Prof. Rogers under the auspices of the Massachusetts Division of University Extension. Two courses in children's literature are being given by Miss Jordan to members of the staff in the Central Library and branches.

## THE BINDERY AND PRINTING DEPARTMENTS.

During the year four new pieces of machinery were installed in the Bindery Department. These have added greatly to the efficiency of the department, and as a consequence it has not been necessary; with one exception, to replace any of those who have been retired. The output of the Bindery, (11 months), was 50,206 volumes, 3,202 more than in 1924-25. The number of recased new books was 9,458, a slight increase over last year.

The old linotypes in the Printing Department were exchanged for three new models and installed during the summer. These, with the new press bought in 1924-25, bring the machinery of the department up to date.

## MECHANICAL AND OTHER CHANGES AND REPAIRS.

Owing to increased appropriations, real progress has been made in putting the Central Building and branch libraries in repair. The more important changes, in addition to those noted in other parts of the Report, are as follows:

New Uniflow engine and generator. One of the old engines and generators was repaired.

New boilers in the Annex were retubed. The old boilers were removed from beneath the main stairway.

Book railway was repaired and rebuilt; all its machinery is now in good running order.

New electrical "service elevator" replaced the old one at the Blagden Street entrance.

New ventilating system was installed for the Lecture Hall.

Major leaks were stopped on the roof of the Central Building, although extensive repairs are still needed. The metal secondary roof and catch-pans over the hall were repaired and renewed where necessary.

A centrifugal pump was installed.

The Record Room was enlarged, painted and relighted. New lights were installed in the Fine Arts Gallery, Periodical and Statistical Rooms at the Central Library.

A sprinkler system was installed in two sections of the Central Library.

The Fine Arts Gallery, Stack, floors 1-6, Printing Department, window trims and iron work at the Central Building were painted. The exterior and interior of the Faneuil Branch Library were painted; at the Jamaica Plain Branch the walls were painted, as were the main room and children's room at Uphams Corner.

The upper gallery of the Statistical Room was floored over, giving much needed space for Fine Arts Department cabinets.

New shelving was installed in the Lower Mills, Mattapan, Neponset, Orient Heights, South Boston, and Uphams Corner Branches. Other minor improvements and repairs were made throughout the branch system.

This year it was also possible to improve the lighting in a number of the branches. Electric systems were installed at Brighton, Charlestown, Dorchester, Faneuil, Hyde Park, Jamaica Plain, North End, Orient Heights, and Uphams Corner Branches. At East Boston the lighting was changed from direct to indirect.

#### RETIREMENTS.

During the year the following persons were retired under the Boston Retirement Act:

*Fellowes Athenaeum Branch:* Martha L. C. Berry, second assistant, (retired April 30, 1925), entered service 1883; *Bindery Department:* William P. Hemstedt, assistant foreman, (retired May 31, 1925, voluntary), entered service 1883; Maximilian Eichhorn, forwarder, (retired August 31, 1925), entered service 1904; *Ordering Department:* Emily O. Frinsdorff, first assistant, (retired August 31, 1925, voluntary), entered service 1894; *Jamaica Plain Branch:* Nellie F. Riley, first assistant, (retired October 31, 1925, voluntary), entered service 1882; *Executive Department:* Adelaide A. Nichols, auditor, (retired December 31, 1925), entered service 1868; *Engineer and Janitor Department:* Thomas J. Sexton, janitor-laborer, (retired December 31, 1925), entered service 1916.

## CONCLUSION.

To the employees of the Library system the Director extends his sincere appreciation for the services they have rendered during the past eleven months. It is a pleasure to acknowledge all the honest and individual effort on the part of chiefs of departments, librarians of branches, and assistants generally, which has given added prestige to the work of the institution. Special recognition is made of the loyal and efficient aid of Mr. Frank H. Chase, the Reference Librarian.

CHARLES F. D. BELDEN,  
*Director,*

## APPENDIX.

### TABLES OF CENTRAL AND BRANCH CIRCULATION.

	1920-21	1921-22	1922-23	1923-24	1924-25	1925†
<b>CENTRAL LIBRARY .</b>	<b>551,190</b>	<b>591,640</b>	<b>590,655</b>	<b>576,997</b>	<b>623,024</b>	<b>608,852</b>
<b>BRANCHES:</b>						
Allston . . .	41,369	47,328	53,598	57,705	60,358	63,434
Andrew Square . .	30,761	33,944	33,413	51,991	68,196	68,772
Boylston Station . .	44,829	50,033	55,672	62,340	64,871	64,599
Brighton . . .	75,273	79,397	83,238	87,672	92,702	89,384
Charlestown . . .	91,455	98,780	101,140	99,035	98,433	95,288
City Point . . .	34,510	30,300	38,381	43,277	47,441	50,108
Codman Square . .	91,721	101,792	103,810	113,529	114,950	119,798
Dorchester . . .	68,873	70,396	67,810	75,608	88,628	90,123
Dor. Lower Mills . .	18,040	17,765	17,577	25,801	27,259	25,488
East Boston . . .	111,813	120,234	120,993	125,968	128,771	125,820
Faneuil . . .	24,001	24,913	24,944	27,004	30,443	31,560
*Fellowes Athenæum . .	80,469	80,933	79,125	71,673	76,007	84,765
Hyde Park . . .	79,592	80,855	82,498	89,716	95,334	93,582
Jamaica Plain . . .	58,228	60,507	59,970	64,022	68,630	67,232
Jeffries Point . . .	.....	10,309	35,925	40,857	52,020	53,004
Mattapan . . .	16,439	20,499	20,497	27,699	48,789	58,290
Mount Bowdoin . . .	73,620	80,492	83,376	98,961	107,679	112,320
Mount Pleasant . . .	49,494	57,562	53,846	52,977	53,953	53,778
Neponset . . .	22,630	28,789	33,263	40,353	41,466	39,479
North End . . .	69,846	85,187	96,359	107,329	117,075	121,651
Orient Heights . . .	21,934	27,970	34,240	30,580	40,605	45,395
Parker Hill . . .	48,891	49,209	49,459	44,081	37,038	39,860
Roslindale . . .	73,310	80,879	82,597	89,336	94,888	93,154
Roxbury Crossing . .	47,030	57,609	55,911	57,869	67,153	58,634
South Boston . . .	104,679	121,194	124,809	139,173	152,799	148,751
South End . . .	99,751	97,403	99,543	111,682	117,845	112,578
Tyler Street . . .	31,343	40,039	39,973	42,270	37,321	37,436
Upham's Corner . . .	113,846	119,375	120,257	109,731	95,975	100,288
Warren Street . . .	94,991	104,412	108,665	122,159	136,981	135,913
West End . . .	123,137	136,431	142,470	154,267	157,321	152,043
West Roxbury . . .	54,956	66,470	74,970	81,199	88,249	88,482
<b>Total . . .</b>	<b>2,448,776</b>	<b>2,672,646</b>	<b>2,768,984</b>	<b>2,922,861</b>	<b>3,132,194</b>	<b>3,129,781</b>

\*Roxbury Branch renamed Fellowes Athenæum Branch in 1923.

† For a year of eleven months.

The net gains and losses in circulation are presented, apart from the totals, in the following form:

	VOLUMES.
1920-21 gain over preceding year . . . . .	148,044
1921-22 gain over preceding year . . . . .	223,870
1922-23 gain over preceding year . . . . .	96,338
1923-24 gain over preceding year . . . . .	153,877
1924-25 gain over preceding year . . . . .	209,333
*1925 loss from preceding year . . . . .	12,413

\*Eleven-month period. Gain for the twelve-month period was, 175,588.

### USE OF BOOKS.

#### CIRCULATION FROM CENTRAL BY MONTHS.

	HOME USE DIRECT	HOME USE THROUGH BRANCH DEPT.	SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS THROUGH BRANCH DEPT.	TOTALS
February, 1925 . . . . .	33,412	11,746	21,440	66,598
March, " . . . . .	31,165	10,528	22,405	64,098
April, " . . . . .	31,406	11,206	23,270	65,882
May, " . . . . .	28,440	9,240	24,420	62,100
June, " . . . . .	22,751	7,694	23,210	53,655
July, " . . . . .	18,331	6,179	5,515	30,025
August, " . . . . .	19,693	6,410	5,775	31,878
September, " . . . . .	18,151	5,821	5,635	29,607
October, " . . . . .	25,635	8,463	10,945	45,043
November, " . . . . .	34,984	12,359	16,980	64,323
December, " . . . . .	49,740	17,773	28,130	95,643
Totals . . . . .	313,708	107,419	187,725	608,852

#### DISTRIBUTION OF TOTAL CIRCULATION.

	HOME USE	SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS	TOTALS
<b>CENTRAL LIBRARY:</b>			
a. Direct . . . . .	313,708		
b. Through branches . . . . .	107,419		
c. Schools and Institutions through Branch Department . . . . .		187,725	608,852
<b>BRANCHES:</b>			
Allston . . . . .	63,434		63,434
Andrew Square . . . . .	68,772		68,772
Boylston Station . . . . .	64,559		64,559
Brighton . . . . .	53,971	35,413	89,384
Charlestown . . . . .	84,645	10,643	95,288
City Point . . . . .	50,108		50,108
Codman Square . . . . .	112,774	6,984	119,758
Dorchester . . . . .	73,542	16,581	90,123
Dorchester Lower Mills . . . . .	25,488		25,488
Carried forward . . . . .	597,293	69,621	666,914



	HOME	SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS	TOTAL
<i>Brought forward</i>	597,293	69,621	666,914
East Boston	107,344	18,476	125,820
Faneuil	31,560		31,560
Hyde Park	84,605	8,977	93,582
Fellowes Athenæum	66,600	18,165	84,765
Jamaica Plain	58,633	8,599	67,232
Jeffries Point	53,004		53,004
Mattapan	58,290		58,290
Mt. Bowdoin	107,451	4,869	112,320
Mt. Pleasant	53,778		53,778
Neponset	39,479		39,479
North End	120,641	1,010	121,651
Orient Heights	45,395		45,395
Parker Hill	39,860		39,860
Roslindale	84,451	8,703	93,154
Roxbury Crossing	58,634		58,634
South Boston	132,028	16,723	148,751
South End	96,481	16,097	112,578
Tyler Street	37,436		37,436
Upham's Corner	98,711	1,577	100,288
Warren Street	131,402	4,511	135,913
West End	131,844	20,199	152,043
West Roxbury	71,969	16,513	88,482
Totals	2,306,889	214,040	2,520,929

These figures are condensed into the following:

*Books lent for home use, including circulation through  
Schools and Institutions.*

From Central Library (including Central Library books issued through the branches)	608,852
From branches (excluding books received from Central Library)	2,520,929
Total	3,129,781

	COMPARATIVE.		1924-25.	1925.
Central Library circulation (excluding schools and institutions):				
Direct home use	334,188		313,708	
Through branches	117,089		107,419	
		451,277		421,127
Branch Libraries circulation (excluding schools and institutions):				
Direct home use		2,283,777		2,306,889
Schools and institutions circulation (including books from Central through the branch system)		397,140		401,765
		3,132,194		3,129,781

Under the inter-library loan system with other libraries the following use of books for the purpose of serious research is shown for two successive years:

	1924-25.	1925.
Volumes lent from this Library to other libraries in Massachusetts	1,770	1,449
Lent to libraries outside of Massachusetts . . . . .	257	255
Totals . . . . .	2,027	1,704
Applications refused:		
From libraries in Massachusetts . . . . .	342	370
From libraries outside of Massachusetts . . . . .	82	104
Totals . . . . .	424	474
Borrowed from other libraries for use here . . . . .	20	31

The classified "home-use" circulation of the branches was as follows, for two successive years:

	1924-25.		1925.	
	VOLUMES.	PERCENTAGE.	VOLUMES.	PERCENTAGE.
Fiction for adults . . . . .	713,320	31	720,311	32
Non-fiction for adults . . . . .	260,051	11	230,900	10
Juvenile fiction . . . . .	841,116	37	893,115	38
Juvenile non-fiction . . . . .	488,310	21	462,563	20

At the Central Library the classified "home-use" circulation shows the following percentage:

	1925-24.	1925.
	PERCENTAGE.	PERCENTAGE.
Non-fiction . . . . .	51.7	52.2
Fiction . . . . .	48.3	47.8

### BOOK ACCESSIONS.

#### BOOKS ACQUIRED BY PURCHASE.

For the Central Library:

	1924-25.	1925.
From City appropriation . . . . .	8,328	7,557
From trust funds income . . . . .	3,774	3,586
	12,102	11,143
For branches:		
From City appropriation . . . . .	54,289	57,874
From trust funds income . . . . .	92	3,908
	54,381	61,782
By Fellowes Athenaeum (for Fellowes Athenaeum Branch) . . . . .	832	
Totals . . . . .	67,315	72,925

The following statement includes the accessions by purchase combined with books received by gift or otherwise:

	CENTRAL.	BRANCHES.	TOTAL VOLUMES
Accessions by purchase . . . . .	11,143	61,782	72,925
Accessions by gift . . . . .	9,244	801	10,045
Accessions by Statistical Department . . . . .	45	....	45
Accessions by exchange . . . . .	120	....	120
Accessions by periodicals bound . . . . .	1,787	144	1,931
Accessions by newspapers bound . . . . .	79	....	97
Totals . . . . .	22,436	62,727	85,163

### THE CATALOGUE.

	1924-25.		1925.	
	VOLS. AND PARTS	TITLES	VOLS. AND PARTS	TITLES
Catalogued (new):				
Central Library Catalogue . . . . .	24,135	13,608	24,314	14,702
Serials . . . . .	4,685	....	5,868	....
Branches . . . . .	53,301	44,321	58,087	49,494
Recatalogued . . . . .	19,007	15,891	17,889	11,613
Totals . . . . .	101,128	73,820	106,158	75,809

### SHELF DEPARTMENT.

The number of volumes shelved and thus made available for public use. taken from the report of the Shelf Department, is

Placed on the Central Library shelves during the year:		
General collections new books (including continuations) . . . . .		22,308
Special collections, new books and transfers . . . . .		1,874
Books reported lost or missing in previous years, but now found, transfers from branches etc. . . . .		1,467
		<u>25,649</u>
Removed from Central Library shelves during the year:		
Books reported lost or missing, condemned copies not yet replaced, transfers, etc. . . . .		14,102
Net gain at Central Library . . . . .		11,547
Net gain at branches . . . . .		18,704
Net gain, entire library system . . . . .		<u>30,251</u>

The total number of volumes available for public use at the end of each year since the formation of the Library is shown in the following statement:

1852-53	9,688	1889	520,508
1853-54	16,221	1890	536,027
1854-55	22,617	1891	556,283
1855-56	28,080	1892	576,237
1856-57	34,896	1893	597,152
1857-58	70,851	1894	610,375
1858-59	78,043	1895	628,297
1859-60	85,031	1896-97	663,763
1860-61	97,386	1897-98	698,888
1861-62	105,034	1898-99	716,050
1862-63	110,563	1899-1900	746,383
1863-64	116,934	1900-01	781,377
1864-65	123,016	1901-02	812,264
1865-66	130,678	1902-03	835,904
1866-67	136,080	1903-04	848,884
1867-68	144,092	1904-05	871,050
1868-69	152,796	1905-06	878,933
1869-70	160,573	1906-07	903,349
1870-71	179,250	1907-08	922,348
1871-72	192,958	1908-09	941,024
1872-73	209,456	1909-10	961,522
1873-74	260,550	1910-11	987,268
1874-75	276,918	1911-12	1,006,717
1875-76	297,873	1912-13	1,049,011
1876-77	312,010	1913-14	1,067,103
1877-78	345,734	1914-15	1,098,702
1878-79	360,963	1915-16	1,121,747
1879-80	377,225	1916-17	1,139,682
1880-81	390,982	1917-18	1,157,326
1881-82	404,221	1918-19	1,173,695
1882-83	422,116	1919-20	1,197,498
1883-84	438,594	1920-21	1,224,510
1884-85	453,947	1921-22	1,258,211
1885	460,993	1922-23	1,284,094
1886	479,421	1923-24	1,308,041
1887	492,956	1924-25	1,333,264
1888	505,872	1925	1,363,515
Volumes in entire library system			1,363,515
Volumes in the branches			365,567

These volumes are located as follows:

Central Library	997,948	Dorchester Lower Mills	2,668
Allston	5,465	East Boston	20,870
Andrew Square	5,179	Faneuil	5,261
Boylston Station	6,070	Fellowes Athenæum	36,343
Brighton	19,201	Hyde Park	34,402
Charlestown	15,596	Jamaica Plain	17,733
City Point	7,546	Jeffries Point	3,623
Codman Square	10,615	Mattapan	4,130
Dorchester	14,618	Mt. Bowdoin	9,712

Mt. Pleasant . . . .	5,739	South Boston . . . .	19,680
Neponset . . . . .	4,159	South End . . . . .	14,440
North End . . . . .	10,532	Tyler Street . . . . .	5,400
Orient Heights . . . .	4,492	Upham's Corner . . . .	12,880
Parker Hill . . . . .	4,004	Warren Street . . . . .	9,990
Roslindale . . . . .	11,204	West End . . . . .	21,620
Roxbury Crossing . . .	6,695	West Roxbury . . . . .	15,620

### THE BINDERY.

	1924-25.	1925.
Number of volumes bound in various styles . . . . .	55,289	59,664
Magazines stitched . . . . .	216	197
Volumes repaired . . . . .	3,046	2,620
Volumes guarded . . . . .	1,312	2,144
Maps mounted . . . . .	35	49
Photographs, engravings, etc., mounted . . . . .	3,019	2,379
Library publications folded, stitched and trimmed . . . .	75,278	64,162

### THE PRINTING DEPARTMENT.

	1924-25.	1925.
Requisitions received and filled . . . . .	181	299
Card Catalogue (Central Library):		
Titles exclusive of automatic reprint . . . . .	16,470	11,050
Cards finished (exclusive of extras) . . . . .	188,328	140,321
Card Catalogue (Branches):		
Titles (Printing Department count) . . . . .	696	568
Cards finished (exclusive of extras) . . . . .	31,218	37,761
Signs . . . . .	3,862	1,825
Blank forms (numbered series) . . . . .	4,016,630	3,613,725
Forms, circulars and sundries (outside numbered series) .	80,225	42,531
Catalogues, pamphlets and bibliographical programmes . .	51,750	67,538

### THE LECTURES OF 1925-1926.

All lectures, except those marked with an asterisk (\*) were illustrated with lantern slides.

1925

- |      |     |  |                                     |
|------|-----|--|-------------------------------------|
| Oct. | 1.  | Inside a Harem, a Pyramid, a Tomb.       | Mrs. Alice Howland Macomber.        |
| Oct. | 4.  | The Story of the Boston Theatre.         | Quincy Kilby.                       |
| Oct. | 5.  | *This Changing World.                    | Miss Lilian Whiting. (Rustic Club.) |
| Oct. | 8.  | Around the World.                        | Walter Wentworth Allerton.          |
| Oct. | 11. | The Route of the Resolute: a World Tour. | John C. Bowker, F.R.G.S.            |

- Oct. 15. From Hell Gate to Golden Gate. Henry Warren Poor, A.M.
- Oct. 18. \*The Music of the Bible. Charles N. Lanphere.
- Oct. 18. \*"The Miracle": Its History and Presentation at Home and Abroad. Rudolph Kommer.
- Oct. 22. Char-a-bancing in the British Isles. Guy Richardson.
- Oct. 25. \*Music Contrasts and Their Delights. Margaret Anderton.
- Oct. 26. \*Ruskin's Museums. Mrs. May Smith Dean. (Ruskin Club.)
- Oct. 29. How the Laymen should view Art. Royal B. Farnum.
- Nov. 1. \*Author's Reading from "God's Scarlet Law." Francis Henry Wade, M.D.
- Nov. 4. \*The Composition of Poetry. Charles Hammond Gibson. (American Poetry Association.)
- Nov. 5. In Viking Lands and Waters. Charles Ernest White.
- Nov. 8. \*A Ritual for Armistice Day. Henry Augustine Smith, A.M.
- Nov. 8. \*The Story of St. Francis in Graphic Language. Mrs. Elizabeth Ward Perkins.
- Nov. 9. Mexico. Dr. Charles E. Spaulding. (Ruskin Club.)
- Nov. 11. \*The English Comedy of Manners. Walter Pritchard Eaton.
- Nov. 12. The Rocky Mountain Hike of 1925. Rev. Charles W. Casson. (Field and Forest Club Course.)
- Nov. 15. \*The Portrait of a Dramatist. Robert E. Rogers, A.M. (Drama League Course.)
- Nov. 19. The New Jugo-Slavia. Emma G. Cummings.
- Nov. 22. \*Amy Lowell and Present-Day Poetry. George Mark Sneath, A.M.
- Nov. 23. \*Goldsmith and Gray. Mr. Charles Hammond Gibson. (Ruskin Club.)
- Nov. 29. \*Scandinavian Writers. Lorence Munson Woodside.
- Dec. 2. \*The Spell of Lyric Poetry. Henry Harmon Chamberlin. (American Poetry Association.)
- Dec. 3. New England Earthquakes: Yesterday, To-day and Tomorrow. Kirtley Fletcher Mather, S.B., Ph.D.
- Dec. 6. Balearic Islands and Cataluña. Ralph Adams Cram, Litt.D., LL.D.
- Dec. 10. Holiday Rambles in the Highlands and Lowlands of Europe. Olive C. Grigor. (Field and Forest Club Course.)
- Dec. 13. \*Recital of Shakespeare's "Taming of the Shrew." Walter Bradley Tripp. (Drama League Course.)
- Dec. 13. \*Reading of Dickens's "Christmas Carol." Walter Bradley Tripp.
- Dec. 14. Alaska: the Land of Far Delight. Mrs. Charles B. Hall. (Ruskin Club.)
- Dec. 17. Popular Legends in Stained Glass. Orin E. Skinner.

- Dec. 20. \*A Modern Opera: Pfitzner's "Palestrina." Otto G. T. Straub.
- Dec. 20. \*Miracle Plays from the York and Townley Cycles. Community Service of Boston, Inc., and Citizens' Public Celebrations Association.
- Dec. 21. \*Miracle Plays from the York and Townley Cycles. Community Service of Boston, Inc., and Citizens' Public Celebrations Association.
- Dec. 23. \*Miracle Plays from the York and Townley Cycles. Community Service of Boston, Inc., and Citizens' Public Celebrations Association.
- Dec. 27. \*Wordsworth. E. Charlton Black, LL.D. (American Poetry Association.)
- Dec. 28. \*Christmas: Music arranged by Mrs. Robert Nichols; Messages, Mrs. Minnie Meserve Soule. (Ruskin Club.)

1926

- Jan. 3. \*The World's Great Songs. Mme. Beale Morey.
- Jan. 3. \*"One Increasing Purpose." Dr. Henry H. Saunderson.
- Jan. 6. \*The Influence of Shakespeare on Scott. Wilmon Brewer, Ph.D. (American Poetry Association.)
- Jan. 7. Treasures of the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum. Martha A. S. Shannon.
- Jan. 10. \*Reading of Shakespeare's "Macbeth". Mrs. Louisa C. James. (Drama League Course.)
- Jan. 10. \*Russian Choral Music. Henry Gideon.
- Jan. 11. \*The Human Voice and How to Read It. Walter Babcock Swift, A.B., O.B., M.D., B.L.I. (Ruskin Club.)
- Jan. 14. Cliff-House and Cave Exploration in Arizona. Alfred Vincent Kidder, Ph.D. (Field and Forest Club Course.)
- Jan. 17. \*Concert by Lincoln House Orchestra. Jacques Hoffman, Conductor.
- Jan. 20. The Chateau Country of France. Rev. Alwin E. Worman. (Old Blake House Chapter, D.A.R.)
- Jan. 21. The Glory of England, her Cathedrals and Scenic Beauty. Frederick Parsons, F.R.S.A.
- Jan. 24. \*Visiting an Eastern King. Mrs. John Clarence Lee.
- Jan. 25. Virgil and Virgil's Land. Dr. Davis Wasgatt Clark. (Ruskin Club.)
- Jan. 28. The Land of Evangeline. Rev. A. T. Kempton, D.D.
- Jan. 31. \*Notable Fiction of the Year. John Clair Minot.
- Jan. 31. \*Concert by the Lenox Quartet.
- Feb. 3. \*The Fervor of Humanity in the Thought and Art of Robert Browning. Helen Archibald Clarke. (American Poetry Association.)
- Feb. 4. A History of Lighting. Julius Daniels.

- Feb. 7. \*An Afternoon with Dickens. Members of the Boston Branch of Dickens Fellowship.
- Feb. 7. \*Concert by Lenox Quartet.
- Feb. 8. \*Observance of Ruskin's Birthday: John Ruskin. E. Charlton Black, LL.D. (Ruskin Club.)
- Feb. 11. Our National Forests. Philip W. Ayres. (Field and Forest Club Course.)
- Feb. 14. The Theatre, from Henry Irving to Walter Hampden. Frank W. C. Hersey, A.M. (Drama League Course.)
- Feb. 15. The Spell of the Italian Lakes. Mrs. James Frederick Hopkins. (Ruskin Club.)
- Feb. 18. The Jubilee Year of 1925. William M. Stinson, S.J.
- Feb. 21. \*The Folk Song in the Concert Hall. John Tasker Howard.
- Feb. 21. \*Concert by the Lenox Quartet.
- Feb. 25. An Historical Pilgrimage from Maine to Florida in a Houseboat. Alfred Johnson, A.M., Litt.D.
- Feb. 28. \*Portrait of a Modern Poet. Robert E. Rogers, A.M. (American Poetry Association.)
- Feb. 28. \*Concert by the Lenox Quartet.
- Mar. 4. Picturesque England from Chester to Clovelly. Ellen E. Page.
- Mar. 7. \*In Word and Tone: a Program of Associated Poetry and Music. Laura Huxtable Porter.
- Mar. 7. \*Concert by the Lenox Quartet.
- Mar. 8. \*What's What in Books. John Clair Minot. (Ruskin Club.)
- Mar. 11. Motor Gypsying and Mountain Climbing Across the Continent. Carl S. Whittier. (Field and Forest Club Course.)
- Mar. 14. Theatre Going in Europe To-day. Albert Hatton Gilmer, A.M. (Drama League Course.)
- Mar. 14. \*Concert by the Lenox Quartet.
- Mar. 18. French Highways and Byways. André Morize, Agrégés-Lettres.
- Mar. 21. \*Concert by Lincoln House Orchestra. Jacques Hoffman, Conductor.
- Mar. 22. This Realm! This England! Mrs. Arthur Dudley Ropes. (Ruskin Club.)
- Mar. 25. Our New and Proposed National Parks, East and West. George H. Browne, A.M.
- Mar. 28. Trails and Trail Building in the White Mountains. Charles Winthrop Blood, Litt.B.,
- Apr. 1. City Health and Emergencies. Dr. Hollis Godfrey, LL.D., D.C.L.
- Apr. 4. \*Folk Songs of Europe. Catherine S. Swett, Assisted by members of the University Double Quartet and Radcliffe Choral Society.



- Apr. 8. England in Art and Story. Mrs. James Frederick Hopkins.  
 Apr. 11. \*Aunt Clarissa Lends her Heirlooms of Two Centuries. Mrs. M. Gertrude Cutter.  
 Apr. 12. \*The Educational Value of the Library. Mr. Henry A. Higgins. Ruskin: A French Critic's View. Prof. Melvin B. Webber. (Ruskin Club.)  
 Apr. 26. \*Author's Reading. Dr. Henry H. Saunderson. (Ruskin Club.)

## PUBLIC EXHIBITIONS, 1925.

- Feb. 2. Photographs of stage settings loaned by the *Theatre Arts Magazine*.  
 Portolan Atlas.  
 Photographs of a Shakespearian Costume Ball.  
 21. Original designs for *House Beautiful* Cover Designs Competition.  
 26. Manuscript letters and first editions of Longfellow (Barton-Ticknor Room).  
 Mar. 7. Color prints of great paintings (Medici and Seeman prints).  
 9. Illustrations from the descriptive booklet of Balieff's *Chasse Souris*.  
 11. "Fifty Books of 1924," selected by the American Institute of Graphic Arts.  
 26. Bowditch memorial exhibition: manuscripts and book rarities from the Nathaniel Bowditch Collection. (Barton-Ticknor Room).  
 Apr. 11. Competitive poster designs and medals loaned by the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals to mark "Be'Kind to Animals Week."  
 15. Manuscripts and printed memorials of the Battle of Lexington, to commemorate the 150th Anniversary. (Barton-Ticknor Room).  
 21. John Singer Sargent Memorial Exhibition. (Reproduction).  
 May 7. Photographs of old-time Base-ball Players from the McGreevy Collection.  
 10. William Ellery Channing memorial exhibition. Manuscripts and editions. (Barton-Ticknor Room).  
 11. Reproductions of the work of the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood.  
 June 2. Editions of the Book of Common Prayer, from the Benton Collection.  
 15. Music commemorating the Battle of Bunker Hill.  
 Memorials of the Battle of Bunker Hill. (Barton-Ticknor Room).

- July 1. Documents and prints relating to the early history of the United States.  
18. Thackeray manuscripts and first editions commemorating the 114th anniversary of the author's birth.
- Sept. 23. Boston Theatre Memorials, in great part loaned by Mr. Quincy Kilby.  
Decorative color prints.
- Oct. 6. Oil paintings and photographs illustrating the *Miracle*, loaned by Morris Gest.  
10. Columbus Day exhibition of rare books and maps.  
29. Fifty Books of 1925.
- Nov. 3. The originals of Subercaseaux's water-color illustrations of the Life of Saint Francis, loaned by the Marshall Jones Company.  
16. John Singer Sargent exhibition of reproductions, supplementing the exhibition of originals at the Museum of Fine Arts and including six oil copies by Sargent from Old Masters, loaned by Governor Fuller.
- Dec. 21. Editions of *Miracle Plays*. (Barton-Ticknor Room).  
29. Paintings and photographs illustrating the Official Mission of the Duc de Trévisé to make known the *Franco-American Society La Sauvegarde de l'art français*.

#### SELECTED LIST OF GIFTS AND GIVERS.

- Allen, John K. Liberty Loan Committee of New England.  
Publicity Committee's Scrap Book in 10 volumes.  
Mr. Allen was organizer of the Publicity Committee and its Executive Officer during the five loans, 1917-1919.
- Alling, Carolyn E. Sixty-nine volumes of miscellaneous works, including a number of publications relating to social service study and an illustrated edition of the History of the World War, by Frank W. Simonds, in five volumes.
- Baker, Leighton. Thirty-six volumes and 11 pieces of music, some in manuscript, mainly works of Benjamin F. Baker.
- Baxter, Sylvester. Sixty-five volumes of Spanish literature, history, fiction and poetry, a number of which are autographed presentation copies by the authors to Mr. Baxter.
- Blake, Miss Sarah Swan, Kittery Point, Maine. Diaries and letters of Francis Minot Weld, M.D., with a sketch of his life; A brief history and genealogy of the family of Weld, by Sarah Swan Weld Blake. Privately printed. Boston, 1925.
- Bradford, Gamaliel, Wellesley Hills. *Wives*, by Gamaliel Bradford. New York (1925)

- Brown, Abbie Farwell, Literary Executor of Oscar Fay Adams. The literary works of Oscar Fay Adams, including the manuscript of notes, written for William Morris's "Summer" (second part of "The Earthly Paradise"); some two dozen short stories collected from magazines in which they first appeared; a collection of eighteen essays entitled "American Women of Yesterday"; a group of studies on "Men of Yesterday"; together with thirty short essays, stories and literary sketches, written in the course of the last quarter of the past century.
- Buenos Aires, Province of, La Plata. Obras completas y correspondencia de Florentino Ameghino. Volume 4. La Plata, 1915. (Continuing the set).
- Champney, Miss Lydia C., Estate of. Twenty volumes of miscellaneous works and a collection of music of 138 volumes and unbound material.
- Clark, William Andrews, Jr., Library of Los Angeles. Some letters from Oscar Wilde to Alfred Douglas, 1892-1897. (Heretofore unpublished.) With illustrative notes by Arthur C. Dennison, Jr. and Harrison Post, and an essay by A. S. W. Rosenbach. San Francisco, 1924. No. 112 of an edition of 225 copies.
- Committee on Historical Records, Winchester, Mass. Winchester's War Records, Civil, Spanish-American, World. Published by the Town of Winchester, 1925.
- Coolidge, John Gardner. Random letters from many countries, by John Gardner Coolidge. 1924. Autograph copy.
- Coolidge, J. Randolph, Jr. Sixty-eight lantern slides of modern architecture.
- Councilman, Mrs. W. T. 363 volumes of miscellaneous works, including a number of text books, 204 numbers of periodicals, Geographic Magazine, St. Nicholas etc., a collection of sheet music and 50 librettos, and 90 photographs.
- Cubberley, Mrs. Ellwood P., Stanford University, California. Notes concerning the Van Uxem family in France and the United States. Compiled by the sole male survivor of the name in America (Francis Van Uxem.) Privately printed. Los Angeles, 1923.
- Curley, Hon. James M. Bronze medal to commemorate the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Bunker Hill, 1775-1925.
- Dossert, Mrs. F. G., New York City. Mass in B minor for four voices, solo, chorus and orchestra, by Frank G. Dossert. Written to commemorate the Golden Jubilee of Pope Leo the Thirteenth and produced in St. Peter's Rome, April 23, 1893, under the leadership of the composer.  
For the Allen A. Brown Music Library.
- Dunham, Otis Emerson, Cambridge. History of Dunham-on-Trent, with Ragnall, Darlton, Wimpton, Kingshaugh, etc. A record of nine hundred years. By Rev. Howard Chadwick. Cambridge, 1924.

- Endicott, William Crowninshield, Danvers, Massachusetts. Memoir of Samuel Endicott with a genealogy of his descendants, by his great-grandson William Crowninshield Endicott, the younger. Boston. 1924. Privately printed in an edition of 125 copies.
- The Explorers Club, Board of Directors, New York City. A set of facsimile reproductions of seven log books of William Scoresby, Sr., accompanied by an introductory brochure. New York, 1916, 1917. No. 83 of 300 copies printed and plates destroyed.
- Farlow, Dr. John W. The child's song book for the use of schools and families, Boston, 1830; the Musical Cabinet, by G. J. Webb and T. B. Hayward, 1841-1842; a bound collection of music for the Allen A. Brown Music Library.
- Faxon, John Lyman, Estate of. Through Amos L. Faxon, Executor. The finished manuscript of the work entitled, "The Ancient Theatres of Europe", by John Lyman Faxon. (Eight volumes of manuscript with drawings).
- Gannon, James P. J. Boston Public Library Employees Benefit Association. Exercises at the dedication of the Tablet in honor of those men of the Library who served in the World War, Armistice Day, 1924. (Programs and clippings in bound volume.)
- Gay, H. Nelson, Director, The Library for American Studies in Italy. Forty publications relating to Italian affairs, including programs and souvenirs of the Keats-Shelley Memorial in Rome; bulletin of the Library of American Studies in Italy, Nos. 1-8; 26 numbers of *Il Piccolissimo, Giornale per i Ragazzi*, 1917-1919.
- Good, Mrs. Isabella J. Two framed photographs of Mozart and Beethoven. Photographs by Bruckmann from paintings by C. Jaeger.
- Great Britain, Commissioners of Patents. London. Specifications of inventions, 205 volumes.
- Gress, Edmund G., Woodhaven, New York, through Norman T. A. Munder, Baltimore. Two photographs of Franklin, from the Duplessis portrait at the Metropolitan Museum of Art; Wish, the song of Franklin, three-colored portrait and decorations engraved in wood by Percy Grassby. Published by Norman T. A. Munder & Company, Baltimore.
- Hallowell, J. Mott. (From the Library of R. P. Hallowell.) Forty-one volumes, mainly anti-slavery literature, including 13 volumes of the Index, 1870-1876; The Atlanta Constitution, 1887-1888, 4 v., and two framed pictures, one of Last Moments of John Brown, and one of a photograph of a bust of John Brown.
- Harrison, Fairfax, Belvoir, Virginia. Virginia land grants. A study of conveyancing in relation to Colonial politics, by Fairfax Harrison. Richmond. 1925.
- Hewins, Mrs. Frank A. Twenty-five volumes for the West Roxbury Branch Library including 22 volumes of Bell's Cathedral Series.

- The Irish World, through Austin J. Ford, New York City. The Irish World, 1923-1925.
- Johnson, Axel B. Vi Udvandrere, af Joost Dahlerup, Kobenhavn, 1924; Sange og Digte paa Dansk og Engelsk, af John Volk, New York, 1903, and six Victor Records of Danish music.
- King, Mrs. Henry P. and Mr. John T. Spaulding, Sunset Rock. A portfolio of pencil sketches by Lester G. Hornby. Privately published for Mrs. Henry P. King and John T. Spaulding. Prides Crossing. 1924.
- Kittredge, Prof. George Lyman, Cambridge. Sir Thomas Malory. By George Lyman Kittredge. Privately printed. Barnstable. 1925. Edition of 50 copies.
- Leavens, T. C., Newtonville. A collection of music of 138 volumes and 70 pieces of sheet music including a number of full scores and organ music.
- Livingston, Mrs. Luther S., Cambridge. Benjamin Franklin's letters to Madame Helvétius and Madame la Freté. With an explanatory note by Luther S. Livingston. Cambridge. 1925.
- McNeil, Catherine C., New York City. The Clan Macneil. Clann Niall of Scotland. By the Macneil of Barra, Chief of the Clan. With an introduction by the Duke of Argyll. No. 81 of 200 autographed copies. New York. 1923.
- Mather, William G., Cleveland. The portraits of Increase Mather, with some notes on Thomas Johnson, an English mezzotinter. By Kenneth B. Murdock. For private distribution by William Gwinn Mather. Cleveland. 1924.
- Mergenthaler Linotype Company, New York City. Linotype instruction book. By John R. Rogers. Brooklyn. 1925. Four copies.
- Metropolitan Museum of Art, Trustees of, New York City. (At the request of Mrs. Edward J. Tytus.) Metropolitan Museum of Art. Egyptian Expedition. Robb de Peyster Tytus Memorial Series. Volume 4, The tomb of two sculptors at Thebes, by Norman de Garis Davies. 1925. (Continuing the set.)
- Minchin, Hamilton, London, England. Some early recollections of Sargent, by Hamilton Minchin. Letchworth. 1925. Edition of 50 copies.
- Mixter, Mrs. S.J. Seventy-three volumes of miscellaneous works, including 15 publications on Bridge whist.
- Mudgett, Mrs. Louis H. Fourteen framed photographs of musical artists, critics and music societies presented to Louis H. Mudgett; also the Commemorative record of the Handel and Haydn Society of Boston, 1815-1903.
- Myers, Albert Cook, Philadelphia. Facsimile of William Penn's first Charter to the people of Pennsylvania, April 25, 1682. Edited by Albert Cook Myers. One of 50 copies on special paper.

- Olmstead Brothers, Brookline. A system of parks and playgrounds for Birmingham. Preliminary report upon the park problems, needs and opportunities of the city and its immediate surroundings. By Olmstead Brothers. (Birmingham, 1925.)
- Page, L. C. & Company. Twenty-three volumes published by L. C. Page & Company.
- Pember, Francis W., Warden of All Souls' College, Oxford. Catalogue of the Archives in the Muniment Rooms of All Souls' College. Prepared by Charles Trice Martin. London. 1877.
- Robbins, Reginald C., Paris, France. Forty-three pieces of music, songs by Reginald C. Robbins. Paris. 1922-1924.
- Sellers, Edwin Jaquett, Philadelphia. Sellers family of Pennsylvania and allied families. By Edwin Jaquett Sellers. Philadelphia. 1925. Edition of 150 copies.
- Sesquicentennial International Exposition, Philadelphia. Publications relating to the Exposition of 1926. Exhibits, rules and regulations and colored posters of Independence Hall and the Liberty Bell.
- Strokoskas, Rev. Francis W., St. Peter's Lithuanian Church. Twenty-three volumes in Lithuanian. For the South Boston Branch library.
- Tannenbaum, Dr. Samuel A., New York City. Reclaiming one of Shakespeare's signatures. By Samuel A. Tannenbaum, Baltimore. 1925.
- Tappan, Miss M. A. Animal locomotion. An electro photographic investigation of consecutive phases of animal movements, 1872-1885. By Eadweard Muybridge. Philadelphia. 1887.
- Titcomb, Everett. Sixty volumes, a miscellaneous collection of chamber music and piano works by the following composers: — Brahms, Bach, Strauss, Mozart, Mendelssohn, Rubinstein, Grieg, St. Saëns, Wagner, Franck, Schumann, Beethoven, Schubert and Liszt. Also nine pieces, compositions by Everett Titcomb, for the Allen A. Brown Library.
- Welcher, The Misses, Hartford, Connecticut. The Warren, Little, Lothrop, Park, Dix, Whitman, Fairchild, Platt, Wheeler, Lance and Avery pedigrees of Samuel Putnam Avery, 1847-1920. New York, 1925. Edition of 200 copies.
- Wendell, W. G. and Ross L. Lynn, New York City. The Book of the Jacob Wendell Scholars. Privately printed. Boston. 1925.
- Wigglesworth, Richard B. Assistant to the Agent General for Reparation Payments, Berlin.  
Report of the Agent General for Reparation Payments, No. 30, 1925. Berlin.
- Woodruff, Frederick O. Woodruff genealogy. Matthew Woodruff of Farmington, Conn., 1640-1, and ten generations of his descendants, together with genealogies of families connected through marriage Compiled by George N. Mackenzie and others. 50 copies printed. Boston, 1925.

OFFICIALS OF THE LIBRARY.

Director,	Charles F. D. Belden.
Assistant to Director,	Robert A. Howes.
Reference Librarian	Frank H. Chase.
Executive Secretary,	Della Jean Deery.
Auditor,	Adelaide A. Nichols.

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Bates Hall Centre Desk, Patent and Newspaper Department: Pierce E. Buckley, Chief.

Patent Division, William J. Ennis, Assistant in Charge.

Newspaper Division, Frederic Serex, Assistant in Charge.

Bindery Department: James W. Kenney, Chief.

Branch Department: Edith Guerrier, Supervisor of Branches.

Central Branch Issue Division, Alice V. Stevens, Assistant in Charge.

Branch Binding Division, Marian A. McCarthy, Assistant in Charge.

Shipping Division, Robert F. Dixon, Assistant in Charge.

\*For Branch Librarians, see below.

Catalogue Department: Samuel A. Chevalier, Chief.

Card Division, T. Francis Brennan, Assistant in Charge.

Shelf Division, Michael McCarthy, Chief Classifier, in Charge.

Children's Department: Alice M. Jordan, Supervisor of Work with Children.

Children's Librarian, Central Library, Mary C. Toy.

Editor: Zoltán Haraszti.

Engineer and Janitor Department: William F. Quinn, Supt. of Buildings.

Genealogy Division: Agnes C. Doyle; Assistant in Charge.

Information Office: John H. Reardon, Assistant in Charge.

Issue Department: Frank C. Blaisdell, Chief.

Ordering Department: Theodosia E. Macurdy, Chief.

Periodical Room: Francis J. Hannigan, Assistant in Charge.

Printing Department: Francis Watts Lee, Chief.

Registration Department: A. Frances Rogers, Chief.

Special Libraries Department: Winthrop H. Chenery, Chief.

Technology Division, George S. Maynard, Assistant in Charge.

Music Division, Richard G. Appel, Assistant in Charge.

Barton-Ticknor Division, Everett B. Tewksbury, Assistant in Charge.

Statistical Department: Horace L. Wheeler, Chief.

Stock Room: Timothy J. Mackin, Custodian.

\*Branch Librarians:

Allston, Katherine F. Muldoon.

Andrew Square, Elizabeth H. McShane.

Boylston Station, Edith R. Nickerson.

Brighton, Marian W. Brackett.  
 Charlestown, Katherine S. Rogan.  
 City Point, Alice L. Murphy.  
 Codman Square, Elizabeth P. Ross.  
 Dorchester, Edith F. Pendleton.  
 East Boston, Laura M. Cross.  
 Faneuil, Gertrude L. Connell.  
 Fellowes Athenaeum, Mary E. Ames.  
 Hyde Park, Grace L. Murray.  
 Jamaica Plain, Katie F. Albert.  
 Jeffries Point, Margaret A. Calnan.  
 Lower Mills, Isabel E. Wetherald.  
 Mattapan, Lois Clark.  
 Mount Bowdoin, Theodora B. Scoff.  
 Mount Pleasant, Margaret H. Reid.  
 Neponset, Ellen C. McShane.  
 North End, Mary F. Curley (acting).  
 Orient Heights, Catharine F. Flannery.  
 Parker Hill, Mary M. Sullivan.  
 Roslindale, Annie M. Donovan.  
 Roxbury Crossing, Katrina M. Sather.  
 South Boston, M. Florence Cufflin.  
 South End, Margaret A. Sheridan.  
 Tyler Street, Marion C. Kingman.  
 Upham's Corner, Beatrice C. Maguire.  
 Warren Street, Beatrice M. Flanagan.  
 West End, Fanny Goldstein.  
 West Roxbury, Carrie L. Morse.













SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TRUSTEES

OF THE

PUBLIC LIBRARY

OF THE

CITY OF BOSTON

1926

BOSTON  
PUBLISHED BY THE TRUSTEES  
1927.

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON: PRINTING DEPARTMENT.  
S. 4. 27; 2500

**TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY**  
**ON JANUARY 1, 1927.**

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**GUY W. CURRIER, *President.***  
Term expires April 30, 1928.

**ARTHUR T. CONNOLLY.**      **WILLIAM A. GASTON.**  
Term expires April 30, 1927.      Term expires April 30, 1930.

**LOUIS E. KIRSTEIN.**      **GORDON ABBOTT.**  
Term expires April 30, 1929.      Term expires April 30, 1931.

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**CHARLES F. D. BELDEN.**  
**DIRECTOR.**



## ORGANIZATION OF THE LIBRARY DEPARTMENT.

The Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, organized in 1852, are now incorporated under the provisions of Chapter 114 of the Acts of 1878, as amended. The Board for 1852 was a preliminary organization; that for 1853 made the first annual report. At first the Board consisted of one alderman and one common-councilman and five citizens at large, until 1867, when a revised ordinance made it to consist of one alderman, two common-councilmen and six citizens at large, two of whom retired, unless re-elected, each year, while the members from the City Council were elected yearly. In 1878 the organization of the Board was changed to include one alderman, one councilman, and five citizens at large, as before 1867; and in 1885, by the provisions of the amended city charter, the representation of the City Government upon the Board by an alderman and a councilman was abolished, leaving the Board as at present, consisting of five citizens at large, appointed by the Mayor, for five-year terms, the term of one member expiring each year. The following citizens at large have been members of the Board since its organization in 1852:

ABBOTT, GORDON, A.B., 1926—  
ABBOTT, SAMUEL APPLETON BROWNE, A.M., 1879–95.  
APPLETON, THOMAS GOLD, A.M., 1852–56.  
BENTON, JOSIAH HENRY, LL.D., 1894–1917.  
BIGELOW, JOHN PRESCOTT, A.M., 1852–68.  
BOWDITCH, HENRY INGERSOLL, M.D., 1865–67.  
BOWDITCH, HENRY PICKERING, M.D., 1894–1902.  
BOYLE, THOMAS FRANCIS, 1902–12.  
BRAMAN, JARVIS DWIGHT, 1869–72.  
BRETT, JOHN ANDREW, LL.B., 1912–16.  
CARR, SAMUEL, 1895–96, 1908–22.  
CHASE, GEORGE BIGELOW, A.M., 1876–85.  
CLARKE, JAMES FREEMAN, D.D., 1879–88.  
COAKLEY, DANIEL HENRY, 1917–19.  
CONNOLLY, ARTHUR THEODORE, 1916—  
CURRIER, GUY WILBUR, 1922—  
CURTIS, DANIEL SARGENT, A.M., 1873–75.  
DE NORMANDIE, JAMES, D.D., 1895–1908.  
DWIGHT, THOMAS, M.D., 1899–1908.  
EVERETT, EDWARD, LL.D., 1852–64.  
FROTHINGHAM, RICHARD, LL.D., 1875–79.  
GASTON, WILLIAM ALEXANDER, LL.B., 1923—  
GREEN, SAMUEL ABBOTT, M.D., 1868–78.  
GREENOUGH, WILLIAM WHITWELL, 1856–88.  
HAYNES, HENRY WILLIAMSON, A.M., 1880–94.  
HILLIARD, GEORGE STILLMAN, LL.D., 1872–75; 76–77.  
KENNEY, WILLIAM FRANCIS, A.M., 1908–1921.  
KIRSTEIN, LOUIS EDWARD, 1919—  
LEWIS, WESTON, 1868–79.  
LEWIS, WINSLOW, M.D., 1867.  
LINCOLN, SOLOMON, A.M., 1897–1907.

MANN, ALEXANDER, D.D., 1908–1923.  
 MURRAY, MICHAEL JOSEPH, LL.B., 1921–26.  
 MORTON, ELLIS WESLEY, 1870–73.  
 PIERCE, PHINEAS, 1888–94.  
 PRINCE, FREDERICK OCTAVIUS, A.M., 1888–99.  
 PUTNAM, GEORGE, D.D., 1868–77.  
 RICHARDS, WILLIAM REUBEN, A.M., 1889–95.  
 SHURTLEFF, NATHANIEL BRADSTREET, LL.D., 1852–68.  
 THOMAS, BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, LL.D., 1877–78.  
 TICKNOR, GEORGE, LL.D., 1852–66.  
 WALKER, FRANCIS AMASA, LL.D., 1896.  
 WHIPPLE, EDWIN PERCY, A.M., 1868–70.  
 WHITMORE, WILLIAM HENRY, A.M., 1885–88.  
 WINSOR, JUSTIN, LL.D., 1867–68.

The HON. EDWARD EVERETT was President of the Board from 1852 to 1864; GEORGE TICKNOR, in 1865; WILLIAM W. GREENOUGH, from 1866 to April, 1888; PROF. HENRY W. HAYNES, from May 7, 1888, to May 12, 1888; SAMUEL A. B. ABBOTT, May 12, 1888, to April 30, 1895; HON. F. O. PRINCE, October 8, 1895, to May 8, 1899; SOLOMON LINCOLN, May 12, 1899, to October 15, 1907; REV. JAMES DE NORMANDIE, January 31, 1908, to May 8, 1908; JOSIAH H. BENTON, May 8, 1908, to February 6, 1917; WILLIAM F. KENNEY, February 13, 1917, to May 7, 1920; REV. ALEXANDER MANN, May 7, 1920, to January 22, 1923; MSGR. ARTHUR T. CONNOLLY, April 13, 1923 to June 13, 1924; LOUIS E. KIRSTEIN, June 13, 1924 to June 19, 1925; HON. MICHAEL J. MURRAY, June 19, 1925 to July 2, 1926; GUY W. CURRIER since July 2, 1926.

### LIBRARIANS.

(From 1858 to 1877, the chief executive officer was called Superintendent; since 1923, Director.)

CAPEN, EDWARD, *Librarian*, May 13, 1852 – December 16, 1874.  
 JEWETT, CHARLES C., *Superintendent*, 1858 – January 9, 1868.  
 WINSOR, JUSTIN, LL.D., *Superintendent*, February 25, 1868 – September 30, 1877.  
 GREEN, SAMUEL A., M.D., *Trustee, Acting Librarian*, October 1, 1877 – September 30, 1878.  
 CHAMBERLAIN, MELLEN, LL.D., *Librarian*, October 1, 1878 – September 30, 1890.  
 DWIGHT, THEODORE F., *Librarian*, April 13, 1892 – April 30, 1894.  
 PUTNAM, HERBERT, LL.D., *Librarian*, February 11, 1895 – April 30, 1899.  
 WHITNEY, JAMES L., A.M., *Acting Librarian*, March 31, 1899 – December 21, 1899; *Librarian*, December 22, 1899 – January 31, 1903.  
 WADLIN, HORACE G., LL.D., *Librarian*, February 1, 1903 – March 15, 1917; *Acting Librarian*, March 15, 1917 – June 15, 1917.  
 BELDEN, CHARLES F. D., A.M., LL.B., *Director*, since March 15, 1917.

# LIBRARY SYSTEM, JANUARY 1, 1926.

DEPARTMENTS.	OPENED.
†Central Library, Copley Square . . . . .	May 2, 1854
†East Boston Branch, 276-282 Meridian St. . . . .	Jan. 28, 1871
§South Boston Branch, 372 Broadway . . . . .	May 1, 1872
Fellowes Athenæum Branch, 46 Millmont St. . . . .	July 16, 1873
†Charlestown Branch, 43 Monument Square . . . . .	Jan. 5, 1874
†Brighton Branch, Academy Hill Road . . . . .	Jan. 5, 1874
†Dorchester Branch, Arcadia, cor. Adams St. . . . .	Jan. 25, 1875
†Lower Mills Branch, Washington, cor. Richmond St. . . . .	*June 7, 1875
†South End Branch, 65 West Brookline St. . . . .	Aug., 1877
†Jamaica Plain Branch, Sedgwick, cor. South St. . . . .	Sept., 1877
†Roslindale Branch, 4210 Washington St. . . . .	*Dec. 3, 1878
†West Roxbury Branch, 1961 Centre St. . . . .	*Jan. 6, 1880
§Mattapan Branch, 7 Babson St. . . . .	*Dec. 27, 1881
†North End Branch, 3a North Bennet St. . . . .	*Oct., 1882
§Neponset Branch, 362 Neponset Ave. . . . .	*Jan. 1, 1883
§Mt. Bowdoin Branch, 202 Washington St. . . . .	*Nov. 1, 1886
§Allston Branch, 138 Brighton Ave. . . . .	*Mar. 11, 1889
†Codman Square Branch, Washington, cor. Norfolk St. . . . .	*Nov. 12, 1890
†Mt. Pleasant Branch, Vine, cor. Dudley St. . . . .	*Apr. 29, 1892
†Tyler Street Branch, Tyler, cor. Oak St. . . . .	*Jan. 16, 1896
†West End Branch, 131 Cambridge St. . . . .	Feb. 1, 1896
†Upham's Corner Branch, 500 Columbia Rd. . . . .	*Mar. 16, 1896
†Memorial Branch, cor. Warren and Townsend Sts. . . . .	*May 1, 1896
§Roxbury Crossing Branch, 208 Ruggles St. . . . .	*Jan. 18, 1897
§Boylston Station Branch, The Lamartine, Depot Square . . . . .	*Nov. 1, 1897
§Orient Heights Branch, 1030 Bennington St. . . . .	*June 25, 1901
†City Point Branch, Municipal Bldg., Broadway . . . . .	*July 18, 1906
§Parker Hill Branch, 1518 Tremont St. . . . .	*July 15, 1907
†Hyde Park Branch, Harvard Ave., cor. Winthrop St. . . . .	Jan. 1, 1912
†Faneuil Branch, 100 Brooks St. . . . .	*Mar. 4, 1914
§Andrew Square Branch, 396 Dorchester St. . . . .	*Mar. 5, 1914
/ §Jeffries Point Branch, 195 Webster St. . . . .	*Oct. 15, 1921

|| In the case of the Central Library and some of the branches the opening was in a different location from that now occupied. \* As a delivery station. † In building owned by City, and exclusively devoted to library uses. ‡ In City building, in part devoted to other municipal uses. § Occupies rented rooms. || The lessee of the Fellowes Athenæum, a private library association.

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Map of the Library System . . . . .	At the end
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TO HIS HONOR MALCOLM E. NICHOLS,  
*Mayor of the City of Boston.*

The Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston present the following report of its condition and affairs for the year ending December 31, 1926, being the seventy-fifth annual report.

#### ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD.

The Honorable Michael J. Murray resigned as trustee in July, and on August 2, Mr. Gordon Abbott was appointed in his place for the term ending April 30, 1931. At the annual meeting on July 2, 1926, Mr. Guy W. Currier was elected President, Msgr. A. T. Connolly, Vice President, and Miss Della Jean Deery, Clerk.

At a meeting of the Board on November 16, 1926 the following Resolution on the retirement of Judge Murray was adopted:

As the Hon. Michael J. Murray has ceased to be a Trustee of the Public Library of the City of Boston by reason of resignation at the expiration of his term of office, his associates on the Board desire to accord their appreciation of his five-year period of service. It is, therefore,

*Resolved*, That Judge Murray, by his faithful and unselfish devotion to his official duties as a member of the Board, as Vice-President and, during his final year, as President is entitled to the gratitude of the citizens of Boston.

Always regular in attendance at meetings, and ready at all times to carry his share of the work; deeply interested in the various problems of administration and helpful in their solution; considerate, courteous, and unselfish, he won and held the good will and respect of his colleagues.

*Resolved*, That the Trustees gratefully accord to him the freedom of the alcoves, with the customary privileges, and that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to Judge Murray with assurances of the Board's consideration.

#### IMMEDIATE NEEDS.

The Trustees of the Public Library call attention to the urgent necessity for the relocation and more adequate protection of the treasures of the Library, consisting of many volumes whose

value cannot be estimated, and thousands of which, if lost, could not be replaced. At the request of the Board, reports have been submitted relating to the necessary changes and reconstruction to be undertaken in the Central Library Building for the safe-keeping of such material, as follows:— From John C. Paige and Co.; from O'Brien, Russell and Co.; and from the office of the Building Commissioner of the City of Boston.

The reports are practically unanimous in their findings and recommendations; namely — turning the present Music Room into a Treasure Room, with the necessary fire-proof construction and equipment, and reconstructing the present Barton-Ticknor Room and the North Gallery with fire-proof equipment. These changes will allow the safe-guarding against fire of the most valuable collections and permit some additional shelving, the need for which is already pressing.

Contemplated changes also include the installation of the sprinkler system in the Bindery and Printing Departments in the Annex and, of more importance, the completion of the system in the basement of the Central Building.

During the year, also at the request of the Board, the Inspection Department of the Associated Factory Mutual Fire Insurance Company was asked to submit a report on the present electric lighting and power equipment of the Central Building.

The report submitted was to the effect that the equipment is unsafe and should have immediate attention. Action should be authorized at once to reduce the existing fire and accident hazard.

#### RECEIPTS OF THE LIBRARY.

The receipts which may be expended by the Trustees for the maintenance of the Library consist of the annual appropriation by the Mayor and City Council, and the income from Trust Funds given to the institution and invested by the City Treasurer. During the past year these receipts were:

Annual appropriation . . . . .	\$1,000,981.00
Special appropriation (Annex balance) . . . . .	11,799.39
Income from Trust Funds . . . . .	26,117.28
Unexpended balance of Trust Funds income of previous years . . . . .	60,125.54
	<hr/>
	\$1,099,023.21

Receipts which are accounted for and paid into the City Treasury for general municipal purposes, during the past year have been as follows:

From fines . . . . .	\$17,620.89
From sales of catalogues, etc. . . . .	98.67
From commission on telephone stations . . . . .	578.57
From sale of waste paper . . . . .	97.44
From payments for lost books . . . . .	1,151.90
Interest on bank deposits . . . . .	36.49
Refund on contract . . . . .	15.48
<b>Total . . . . .</b>	<b>\$19,599.44</b>

#### ESTIMATES FOR 1927.

The estimates for the maintenance of the Library for the year ending December 31, 1927 in segregated budget form are as follows:

A — Personal service . . . . .	\$725,800.00
B — Service other than personal . . . . .	251,945.00
C — Equipment . . . . .	182,828.00
D — Supplies . . . . .	39,230.00
E — Materials . . . . .	25,325.00
F — Special items . . . . .	864.00
<b>Total . . . . .</b>	<b>\$1,225,992.00</b>

#### ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY.

During the present year there have been added to the Central Library and branches 93,867 volumes as against 85,163 in 1925. Of these, 80,146 were acquired by purchase and 13,721 by gift, exchanges, etc. The total expenditure for books, periodicals, newspapers and other library material from City appropriation and Trust Funds income, was \$150,161.92. The total number of volumes in the Central Library and branches is 1,388,439.

#### CIRCULATION.

The total number of books issued for home use during the year was 3,499,137, as against 3,129,781 for 1925, a fiscal year of eleven months. The gain in home circulation for a twelve months' period was 217,630 volumes.



## GIFTS AND BEQUESTS.

The Trustees are glad to report the following gifts and bequests other than books and related material, during 1926:

In April, Mrs. Langdon Pearse gave to the Library a marble copy of the Psyche of Capua, the original of which is in the Museum at Naples; in October, Mr. Louis E. Kirstein gave \$1000 to be added to the "Louis E. Kirstein Fund" established in 1925; in October, Mrs. John Elliott presented, on behalf of a committee of citizens, two studies in oil of Mr. Elliott's mural painting in the Library "The Triumph of Time"; and in November, under a decree of the Supreme Judicial Court in Equity of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the Library received the sum of \$3,858.24, being the balance remaining in the hands of the surviving trustees of the fund originally raised to install in the Library decorations by the late John S. Sargent, which has been funded as the "John Singer Sargent Fund" the income to be used for the care and preservation of the Sargent decorations and such other purposes as are set forth in the decree.

Many important gifts of books and other library material have been received during the year. A detailed statement of these may be found in the Director's report.

## TRUST FUNDS.

The Trustees welcome bequests of money, and hope that generous testators may remember the Library. It is from such sources only that they can make purchases of rare works, which give value and rank to a great educational institution but for which they hesitate to expend public funds appropriated for more popular and pressing use.

As a matter of interest to the public, the Board has pleasure in listing herewith the present trust funds of the Library, with explanatory notes.

**Artz Fund** — Donation from MISS VICTORINE THOMAS ARTZ, of Chicago; the income of this sum to be employed in the purchase of valuable, rare editions of the writings, either in verse or prose, of

American and foreign authors. These books are to be known as the "Longfellow Memorial Collection." Received in 1896.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . \$10,000.00*

**Bates Fund** — Donation made by JOSHUA BATES, of London, in March, 1853.

"The income only of this fund is to be each and every year expended in the purchase of such books of permanent value and authority as may be found most needful and most useful." Payable to the Mayor of the City for the time being.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . \$50,000.00*

**Bigelow Fund** — Donation made by JOHN P. BIGELOW in August, 1850, when Mayor of the city.

The income from this fund is to be appropriated for the purchase of books for the increase of the library.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . \$1,000.00*

**Robert Charles Billings Fund** — Bequest of ROBERT CHARLES BILLINGS.

"The sum to constitute a permanent fund for said library, to be called the Robert Charles Billings Fund, the income only to be used for the purposes of the purchase of books for said library." Received in 1903.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . \$100,000.00*

**Bowditch Fund** — Bequest of J. INGERSOLL BOWDITCH. Received in 1890.

The whole income in each and every year to be expended in the purchase of books of permanent value and authority in mathematics and astronomy.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond . \$10,000.00*

**Bradlee Fund** — Bequest of the REV. CALEB DAVIS BRADLEE to the Boston Public Library. Received in 1897.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-half per cent Bond . \$1,000.00*

**Joseph H. Center Fund** — Bequest of JOSEPH H. CENTER, the income thereof to be at all times applied to the purchase of books and other additions to the library. Received in 1905.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond \$1,000.00*

*City of Boston Three and one-half per cent Bonds 38,500.00*

*Cash in City Treasury, December 31, 1926 43.14*

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**\$39,543.14**

**Children's Fund** — Bequest of JOSIAH H. BENTON of \$100,000, to be held as "The Children's Fund," and the income applied to the purchase of books for the use of the young, to be applied for those pur-

poses only in years when the city appropriates for the maintenance of the Library at least three per cent of the amount available for department expenses from taxes and income in said city. In any year when the city does not thus appropriate at least three per cent of the amount available for department expenses from taxes and income in said City, the income given in said will for the purchase of books shall be paid to the Rector of Trinity Church in the City of Boston to be by him dispensed in relieving the necessities of the poor.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond</i>	\$15,000.00
City of Boston Four per cent Bond	62,000.00
Commonwealth of Massachusetts Three and one-half per cent Bond	20,000.00
Commonwealth of Massachusetts Four per cent Bond	6,000.00
Cash in City Treasury, December 31, 1926	117.74
	<hr/>
	\$103,117.74

**Clement Fund** — Bequest of the late FRANK CLEMENT, of Newton, to be known as the "Frank Clement Fund," the income to be applied to the purchase of books. Received in 1915.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond* . \$2,000.00

**Henry Sargent Codman Memorial Fund** — This is a contribution from the friends of HENRY SARGENT CODMAN, to be used to perpetuate the memory of Mr. Codman by the purchase of books upon landscape gardening. It is the desire of the subscribers that a special book plate shall be inserted in each of the volumes purchased, identifying it as part of their memorial collection. Received in 1898.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Three and one-half per cent Bond</i>	\$2,800.00
Cash in City Treasury, December 31, 1926.	54.41
	<hr/>
	\$2,854.41

**Cutter Fund** — Bequest of ABRAM E. CUTTER of four thousand dollars and his library of books, the income of the fund to be expended for the purchase of books, and for binding. Received in 1901.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Three per cent Bond</i>	\$4,000.00
City of Boston Four and one-half per cent Bond	100.00
Cash in City Treasury, December 31, 1926	40.00
	<hr/>
	\$4,140.00

**Elizabeth Fund** — Bequest of SARAH A. MATCHETT, late of Brookline, who died October 6, 1910, the object of which is stated in the following extract from her will:

"I give and bequeath to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, twenty-five thousand dollars, to be called the Elizabeth fund, to be received, held and securely invested, and only the net income therefrom expended every year in the purchase of such books of permanent value and authority as may be most useful in said Library."

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . \$25,000.00*

**Daniel Sharp Ford Fund** — A bequest of DANIEL SHARP FORD to the Public Library of the City of Boston. Received in 1900.

*Invested in City of Boston Three per cent Bond . . . \$6,000.00*

**Franklin Club Fund** — Donation made in June, 1863, by a literary association of young men in Boston, who, at the dissolution of the association, authorized its trustees, Thomas Minns, John J. French and J. Franklin Reed, to dispose of the funds on hand in such manner as to them should seem judicious. They elected to bestow them on the Public Library, attaching thereto only the following conditions: "In trust, that the income, but the income only, shall, year by year, be expended in the purchase of books of permanent value, for the use of the free Public Library of the city, and as far as practicable of such a character as to be of special interest to young men." The trustees expressed a preference for books relative to government and political economy.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter*

*per cent Bond . . . . . \$1,000.00*

**Isabella Stewart Gardner Fund** — Bequest of ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER.

"To the Trustees of the Boston Public Library, for the Brown Musical Library, for a memorial to B. J. Lang." Received in 1924.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . . . \$5,000.00*

**Morris Gest Fund** — Donation made by MR. MORRIS GEST in December 1925, the gross receipts from a benefit performance for the Library of "The Miracle". — \$2,652.50, the income to be used in the interest of dramatic art.

*Deposited in Hibernia Savings Bank . . . \$2,652.00*

**Green Fund** — Donations of DR. SAMUEL A. GREEN of \$2,000, the income of which is to be expended for the purchase of books relating to American history. Received in 1878 and 1884.

*Invested in*

*City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . 1,500.00*

*City of Boston Three per cent Bond . . . 500.00*

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*\$2,000.00*

**Charlotte Harris Fund** — Bequest of CHARLOTTE HARRIS, late of Boston, the object of which is stated in the following extract from her will: "I give to the Charlestown Public Library \$10,000, to be invested of interest, which interest is to be applied to the purchase of books published before 1850. I also give to said Public Library my own private library and the portrait of my grandfather, Richard Devens." Bequests accepted by City Council, July 31, 1877.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond . . . . .* \$10,000.00

**Thomas B. Harris Fund** — Bequest of THOMAS B. HARRIS, late of Charlestown, for the benefit of the Charlestown Public Library. Received in 1884.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . . .* \$1,000.00

**Hyde Fund** — Bequest of FRANKLIN P. HYDE of Boston, to be known as the "Franklin P. Hyde Fund," the income to be applied to the purchase of books and other library material. Received in 1915.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . . . . .* \$3,600.00

Cash, December 31, 1926. . . . . 32.40

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\$3,632.40

**David P. Kimball Fund** — Bequest of DAVID P. KIMBALL.

"I give to the Public Library of the City of Boston, the income to be used for the purchase of books, \$10,000." Received in 1924.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . . . . .* \$10,000.00

**Louis E. Kirstein Fund** — Donation of \$1,000 made by Mr. LOUIS E. KIRSTEIN in October 1925, "to be used for any purpose of the Library that the Trustees see fit to put it to." October, 1926 \$1,000.00

*Deposited in Hibernia Savings Bank . . . . .* \$2,000.00

**Arthur Mason Knapp Fund** — Extract from the will of KATHERINE KNAPP: "To the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), to be known as the Arthur Mason Knapp Fund, of which the income only shall be used for the purchase of books for said library. And I hereby request that such books be designated with an appropriate label or inscription, bearing the name of the Fund." Received in 1914.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . . .* \$10,000.00

**Abbott Lawrence Fund** — Bequest of ABBOTT LAWRENCE, of Boston. Received in 1860. The interest on this fund is to be exclusively appropriated for the purchase of books for the said library having a permanent value.

*Invested in City of Boston Three and one-half per cent Bond . . . . .* \$10,000.00

**Edward Lawrence Fund** — Bequest of EDWARD LAWRENCE, of Charlestown. Received in 1886. The following clause from his will explains its purpose:

"To hold and apply the income and so much of the principal as they may choose, to the purchase of special books of reference to be kept and used only at the Charlestown branch of said Public Library."

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . . .* \$500.00

**Mrs. John A. Lewis Fund** — Bequest of ELIZABETH LEWIS, to be known as the Mrs. John A. Lewis Fund: "I give and bequeath to the Boston Public Library the sum of \$5,000 as a fund, the income of which is to be used for the purchase of such old and rare books as shall be fitly selected to augment the collection known as the John A. Lewis Library." Received in 1903.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . . .* \$5,000.00

**Charles Greely Loring Memorial Fund** — Donation from the family of CHARLES GREELY LORING, the income of which is to be expended for the purchase of books for the West End Branch. Received in 1896.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . . .* \$500.00

**Charles Mead Fund** — Bequest of CHARLES MEAD, to constitute the Charles Mead Public Library Trust Fund for the promotion of the objects of the Public Library in such manner as the government of said library shall deem best, and so far as the government shall deem consistent with the objects of the library to be used for the benefit of the South Boston Branch Library. Received in 1896.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-half per cent Bond . . . . .* \$2,500.00

**The Oakland Hall Trust Fund** — By an interlocutory decree of the Probate Court for the County of Suffolk, the amount of \$11,781.44 was received, the same being one-half of the net amount received from the disposition of certain property held by the Trustees, under an indenture between Amor Hollingsworth, Sumner A. Burt and Amor L. Hollingsworth, all of Milton, Mass., and John H. McKendry, of Boston, Mass., entered into the sixth day of August, 1870. The above amount was accepted by the City, January 2, 1924, and the Trustees of the Public Library voted to invest the same under the name of "The Oakland Hall Trust Fund," the income to be applied to the purchase of books and other library material for the Mattapan Branch.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . . . . .* \$11,780.00

Cash, December 31, 1926 . . . . . 1.44

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\$11,781.44

**John Boyle O'Reilly Fund** — Donation received from the PAPHYRUS CLUB to establish a fund in memory of John Boyle O'Reilly, late member of said club, the income of said fund to be devoted to the

purchase of books for the Boston Public Library. Received in 1897.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . . .* \$1,000.00

Phillips Fund — Donation made by JONATHAN PHILLIPS, of Boston, in April, 1853.

The interest of this fund is to be used exclusively for the purchase of books for said library.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . . .* \$10,000.00

Also a bequest by the same gentleman in his will dated September 20, 1849.

The interest on which is to be annually devoted to the maintenance of a free Public Library.

*Invested in City of Boston Three and one-half per cent Bond . . . . .* \$20,000.00

Both of these items are payable to the Mayor of the City for the time being.

Pierce Fund — Donation made by HENRY L. PIERCE, Mayor of the City, November 29, 1873, and accepted by the City Council, December 27, 1873.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . . . . .* \$5,000.00

Sarah E. Pratt Fund — Bequest from SARAH E. PRATT, late of Boston, under the 14th clause of her will, for the benefit of the Dorchester Branch, \$500.00. Received in January, 1922.

Distribution of residue of estate on May 7, 1924, \$964.30.

By vote of the Trustees the bequest to be funded as the Sarah E. Pratt Fund; the income to be applied to the purchase of books for the Dorchester Branch.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . . .* 1,400.00

Cash in City Treasury, December 31, 1926 . . . . . 64.30

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\$1,464.30

Scholfield Fund — Bequest of ARTHUR SCHOLFIELD, who died in New York, January 17, 1883. The interest to be paid to certain heirs during their lives, and then to be used for the purchase of books of permanent value. The last heir, Joseph Scholfield, died November 18, 1889, and by his will bequeathed to the City of Boston the sum of \$11,766.67, which represents the income of said fund received by him up to the time of his death, to which was added \$33.33 accrued interest on deposit up to the time of investment, to be added to the fund given by his brother.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . . . . .* \$33,800.00

City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond . . . . . 12,000.00

City of Boston Four and one-half per cent Bonds . . . . . 6,000.00

City of Boston Five per cent Bonds . . . . . 10,000.00

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\$61,800.00

**Sewall Fund** — Extract from the will of **RICHARD BLACK SEWALL**:

"*Tenth.* — I bequeath the following pecuniary legacies clear of legacy tax, namely, To the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston \$25,000 (twenty-five thousand dollars) to be added to their funds and the income to be used for the purchase of books."

Received in 1918.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter per*

cent Bond . . . . . \$25,000.00

**Skinner Fund** — Extract from the will of **FRANCIS SKINNER**:

"*Eleventh.* — All my books and library I give and bequeath to my son, to be enjoyed by him during his life and after his death to be distributed as he shall appoint among such public libraries, as he shall judge fit, and in case he makes no such appointment then to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston.

"*Sixteenth.* — All the rest and residue of my said property of whatever kind, I give and bequeath to Augustus P. Loring and J. Lewis Stackpole in trust to pay the net income to my son Francis Skinner, Jr., during his life, or to apply the same to his maintenance and support, or the maintenance and support of any issue of his, as they shall think best during his life; and at his death to apply the income to the maintenance and support of his issue until his youngest child shall reach the age of 21 years and then to distribute said property among said issue, the issue of a deceased child to take the share a parent would have taken if living.

"If there shall be no issue surviving at the time of my son's death, then to turn the said property into cash and to divide it equally among the following legatees: The Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, the Museum of Fine Arts of Boston, Massachusetts, the Massachusetts General Hospital, the Medical School of Harvard University, and the Free Hospital for Women, Brookline, Massachusetts." Received in 1914.

*Invested in City of Boston Three and one-half per*

cent Bond . . . . . \$40,000.00

City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . . . . . 10,250.00

City of Boston Four and one-half per cent Bond . . . . . 200.00

16 shares Worcester Street Railway Company . . . . . 1,280.00

Cash, December 31, 1926 . . . . . 2.14

\$51,732.14

**South Boston Branch Library Trust Fund** — Donation of a citizen of South Boston, the income of which is to be expended for the benefit of the South Boston Branch Library. Received in 1879.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter per*

cent Bond . . . . . \$100.00



**Mary Elizabeth Stewart Fund** — Bequest of MARY ELIZABETH STEWART of \$3,500 to the Trustees of the Boston Public Library. The Trustees voted under date of June 29, 1923, that the income be applied to the purchase of books and other library material.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond* . . . . . \$3,500.00

**Patrick F. Sullivan Bequest** — Extract from will: "I give and bequeath to the Trustees of the Boston Public Library the sum of five thousand dollars, the principal or income of said sum to be expended by them for the purchase of Catholic standard books, said books to be approved by the Archbishop of the diocese of Boston, Mass., or by the President of the Trustees of Boston College, in Boston, Mass." Received in 1908.

This bequest, together with interest amounting to \$339.61, has been expended for books.

**Ticknor Bequest** — By the will of GEORGE TICKNOR, of Boston, he gave to the City of Boston, on the death of his wife, all his books and manuscripts in the Spanish and Portuguese languages, about four thousand volumes, and also the sum of four thousand dollars. After the receipt of said sums the city is required to spend not less than one thousand dollars in every five years during the twenty-five years next succeeding (i.e., the income of four thousand dollars, at the rate of five per cent per annum) in the purchase of books in the Spanish and Portuguese languages and literature. At the end of twenty-five years the income of said sum to be expended annually in the purchase of books of permanent value, either in the Spanish or Portuguese languages, or in such other languages as may be deemed expedient by those having charge of the library. The books bequeathed or purchased are always to be freely accessible for reference or study, but are not to be loaned for use outside of the library building. If these bequests are not accepted by the city, and the trusts and conditions faithfully executed, the books, manuscripts and money are to be given to the President and Fellows of Harvard College.

In order that the city might receive the immediate benefit of this contribution, Anna Ticknor, widow of the donor, relinquished her right to retain during her life the books and manuscripts, and placed them under the control of the city, the City Council having previously accepted the bequests in accordance with the terms and conditions of said will, and the Trustees of the Public Library received said bequests on behalf of the city, and made suitable arrangements for the care and custody of the books and manuscripts. Received in 1871.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-half per cent Bond* . . . . . \$4,000.00

**William C. Todd Newspaper Fund** — Donation by WILLIAM C. TODD, accepted by order of the City Council, approved October 30, 1897.

the income to be at least two thousand dollars a year, to be expended by the Library Trustees for newspapers of this and other countries.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond* . . . \$50,000.00  
**Townsend Fund** — Donation from William Minot and William Minot, Jr., executors of the will of MARY P. TOWNSEND, of Boston, at whose disposal she left a certain portion of her estate in trust for such charitable and public institutions as they might think meritorious. Said executors accordingly selected the Public Library of the City of Boston as one of such institutions, and attached the following conditions to the legacy: "The income only shall, in each and every year, be expended in the purchase of books for the use of the library; each of which books shall have been published in some one edition at least five years at the time it may be so purchased." Received in 1879.

*Invested in City of Boston Three and one-half per cent Bond* . . . . . \$4,000.00  
**Treadwell Fund** — By the will of the late DANIEL TREADWELL, of Cambridge, late Rumford Professor in Harvard College, who died February 27, 1872, he left the residue of his estate, after payment of debts, legacies, etc., in trust to his executors, to hold during the life of his wife for her benefit, and after her decease to divide the residue then remaining in the hands of the Trustees, as therein provided, and convey one-fifth part thereof to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston.

By order of the City Council, approved May 17, 1872, said bequest was accepted and the Trustees of the Public Library authorized to receive the same and invest it in the City of Boston Bonds, income of which is to be expended by said Trustees in such manner as they may deem for the best interests of the Library.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-half per cent Bond* . . . . . \$1,000.00  
*City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bonds* . . . . . 3,100.00  
*City of Boston Four per cent Bonds.* . . . . 9,850.00  
*Cash in City Treasury, December 31, 1926* . . . . . 37.69  


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**\$13,987.69**

**Tufts Fund** — Bequest of NATHAN A. TUFTS, of Charlestown, to be known as the "Nathan A. Tufts Fund," the income to be applied at all times to the purchase of books and other additions to the library to be placed in the Charlestown Branch. Received in 1906.

*Invested in City of Boston Three and one-half per cent Bonds* . . . . . \$10,100.00  
*Cash in City Treasury, December 31, 1926.* . . . . 31.77  


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**\$10,131.77**

**Twentieth Regiment Memorial Fund** — Donation on account of the **TWENTIETH REGIMENT MEMORIAL FUND**, the income to be used for the purchase of books of a military and patriotic character, to be placed in the alcove appropriated as a memorial to the Twentieth Regiment. Received in 1897.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond* . . . . . \$5,000.00

**Wales Fund** — Extract from the will of **GEORGE C. WALES**:

"After the foregoing bequests I direct that the sum of five thousand dollars be paid to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, the same to be held, managed and invested by them, so as to produce an income, and the said income to be applied to the purchase of such books for said Library as they may deem best." Received in 1918.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond* . . . . . \$5,000.00

**Mehitable C. C. Wilson Fund** — Bequest of **MEHITABLE C. C. WILSON**, the income to be expended for the purchase of books for the Boston Public Library. Received in 1913.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds* . . . . . \$1,000.00

**Whitney Funds** — Bequests of **JAMES LYMAN WHITNEY**, who died September 25, 1910.

**Alice Lincoln Whitney Fund** — The twelfth clause of his will directed that: One-tenth of said remaining income of the principal fund, I direct to be paid to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, to be held and accumulated by said Trustees and permanently invested and re-invested. The first five thousand dollars of income so accumulated, including the income thereon arising during the period of accumulation, I request to be funded in the name of my sister, Alice Lincoln Whitney, and the income of said fund after its accumulation or so much of said income as may be required, to be paid to such employees of the said Library, who are sick and in need of help, as the Trustees may in their discretion deem most worthy (there are often such cases). Any amount of income from said accumulated fund not needed for the purpose just mentioned shall be used for the purchase of books and manuscripts.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Five per cent Bond</i> . . . . .	\$ 500.00
City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond . . . . .	1,000.00
City of Boston Four per cent Bonds. . . . .	3,500.00
	<hr/>
	\$5,000.00

**James Lyman Whitney Fund —** The Alice Lincoln Whitney Fund having been established, all amounts of income of the principal fund paid to said Trustees, after the accumulation of said fund of five thousand dollars shall be held as the James Lyman Whitney Fund, and invested and re-invested and the income used in equal shares, one share for the purchase of rare and expensive books, and one share for the purchase and care of manuscripts; one half at least of the share devoted to manuscripts to be expended for their cataloguing and proper care.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four and one-half per cent Bonds</i>	\$1,200.00
City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bonds	2,000.00
City of Boston Four per cent Bonds	8,900.00
Cash in City Treasury, December 31, 1926	29.85
	<hr/>
	\$12,129.85

In addition to the above Mr. Whitney created a trust, directing that of the net income seven hundred dollars a year be paid to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, to be expended on bibliographic work for the benefit of the Library.

**Central Library Building Fund —** Donations in response to an appeal by the Trustees in April, 1925, setting forth the needs of the Library, from

Percy Lee Atherton	\$ 25.00
William York Peters	25.00
John T. Spaulding	100.00
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<i>Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond</i>	\$150.00
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**Donations —** Besides the preceding, the following donations have been made to the Public Library, and the amounts have been appropriated for the purchase of books, according to the intention of the donors, viz.:

J. Ingersoll Bowditch	\$6,800.00
Samuel Appleton, late of Boston.	1,000.00
Sally Inman Kast Shepard	1,000.00
James Brown, late of Cambridge	500.00
Andrew Carnegie	980.75
Nathaniel I. Bowditch	200.00
James Nightingale	100.00
Dorchester and Milton Circulating Library, for the benefit of the Dorchester Branch Library	335.13
	<hr/>
	\$10,915.88

# RECAPITULATION OF PUBLIC LIBRARY TRUST FUNDS.

Artz Fund . . . . .	\$ 10,000.00
Bates Fund . . . . .	50,000.00
Bigelow Fund . . . . .	1,000.00
Robert Charles Billings Fund . . . . .	100,000.00
Bowditch Fund . . . . .	10,000.00
Bradlee Fund . . . . .	1,000.00
Joseph H. Center Fund . . . . .	39,543.14
Central Library Building Fund . . . . .	150.00
Children's Fund . . . . .	103,117.74
Clement Fund . . . . .	2,000.00
Henry Sargent Codman Memorial Fund . . . . .	2,854.41
Cutter Fund . . . . .	4,140.00
Elizabeth Fund . . . . .	25,000.00
Daniel Sharp Ford Fund . . . . .	6,000.00
Franklin Club Fund . . . . .	1,000.00
Isabella Stewart Gardner Fund . . . . .	5,000.00
Morris Gest Fund . . . . .	2,652.50
Green Fund . . . . .	2,000.00
Charlotte Harris Fund . . . . .	10,000.00
Thomas B. Harris Fund . . . . .	1,000.00
Hyde Fund . . . . .	3,632.40
David P. Kimball Fund . . . . .	10,000.00
Louis E. Kirstein Fund . . . . .	2,000.00
Arthur Mason Knapp Fund . . . . .	10,000.00
Abbott Lawrence Fund . . . . .	10,000.00
Edward Lawrence Fund . . . . .	500.00
Mrs. John A. Lewis Fund . . . . .	5,000.00
Charles Greely Loring Memorial Fund . . . . .	500.00
Charles Mead Fund . . . . .	2,500.00
The Oakland Hall Trust Fund . . . . .	11,781.44
John Boyle O'Reilly Fund . . . . .	1,000.00
Phillips Fund . . . . .	30,000.00
Pierce Fund . . . . .	5,000.00
Sarah E. Pratt Fund . . . . .	1,464.30
John Singer Sargent Fund . . . . .	3,858.24
Scholfield Fund . . . . .	61,800.00
Sewall Fund . . . . .	25,000.00
Skinner Fund . . . . .	51,732.14
South Boston Branch Library Trust Fund . . . . .	100.00
Mary Elizabeth Stewart Fund . . . . .	3,500.00
Ticknor Fund . . . . .	4,000.00
William C. Todd Newspaper Fund . . . . .	50,000.00
Townsend Fund . . . . .	4,000.00
Treadwell Fund . . . . .	13,987.69
Nathan A. Tufts Fund . . . . .	10,131.77
Twentieth Regiment Memorial Fund . . . . .	5,000.00
Wales Fund . . . . .	5,000.00
Mehitable C. C. Wilson Fund . . . . .	1,000.00
Alice Lincoln Whitney Fund . . . . .	5,000.00
James Lyman Whitney Fund . . . . .	12,129.85

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 \$726,075.62

## EXAMINING COMMITTEE.

The Trustees gratefully acknowledge the assistance rendered by the Examining Committee of the year. The recommendations of this Committee are of real value and have received careful attention. The Committee consisted of the following persons:

Miss Anna M. Bancroft.	Mr. Hollis French.
Prof. E. Charlton Black.	Mr. Lee M. Friedman.
Mr. Jeffrey R. Brackett.	Mr. Francis L. Higginson.
Mr. W. Irving Bullard.	Mr. David H. Howie.
Mr. Herman L. Bush.	Mr. Henry Lewis Johnson.
Mr. Sidney S. Conrad.	Mr. Jacob J. Kaplan.
Prof. Archibald C. Coolidge.	Mr. John C. Kiley.
Mr. Charles P. Curtis, Jr.	Gen. Edward L. Logan.
Mr. William J. Davidson.	Mr. Francis P. O'Connor.
Prof. Arthur S. Dewing.	Rev. Lyman V. Rutledge.
Mr. Clifton H. Dwinell.	Mr. Samuel Sigilman.
Mr. Francis W. Fabyan.	Prof. H. W. Tyler.
Mr. John I. Fitzgerald.	Mrs. Barrett Wendell.

Their report is appended to this report.

## CONCLUSION.

Again, in closing, the Board notes with pleasure and appreciation the effectiveness of the Director and his corps of assistants in the intelligent administration of the Library and its branches. Owing to their loyal and faithful service, the affairs of the Library have moved smoothly and well during the year. We are glad to be able to commend the substantially uniform excellence of their work.

GUY W. CURRIER  
ARTHUR T. CONNOLLY  
LOUIS E. KIRSTEIN  
GORDON ABBOTT  
WILLIAM A. GASTON

## BALANCE SHEET. RECEIPTS AND

DR.

## CENTRAL LIBRARY AND BRANCHES:

## To expenditures for

Permanent employees (exclusive of Printing and  
Binding Departments)

\$438,946.41

Temporary employees

175,947.89

\$614,894.30

## Service other than personal

Contract work (outside)

319.84

Advertising

59.00

Transportation of persons

598.52

Cartage and freight

12,239.36

Light and Power

15,129.07

Rent, taxes and water

17,886.30

Surety bond and insurance

15.55

Communication

2,540.43

Cleaning towels, etc.

1,335.64

Removal of snow

571.75

Medical

16.67

Expert

3,442.99

Fees

116.10

General Plant Repairs

40,497.79

94,769.01

## To expenditure for equipment

Machinery

209.92

Motorless vehicles

105.95

Furniture and fittings

7,917.45

Office

971.36

## Books:

City appropriation

\$113,768.36

Trust funds income

26,707.28

less transfer to

London account

5,000.00

21,707.28

135,475.64

## Newspapers:

City appropriation

902.17

Todd fund

2,182.92

3,085.09

Periodicals

10,747.17

Photographs

854.02

Tools and instruments

1,144.15

General plant equipment

3,181.11

163,691.86

## To expenditures for supplies:

Office

7,503.67

Food and ice

458.94

Fuel

21,116.39

Forage for animals

28.10

Medical

11.59

Laundry, cleaning, toilet

1,929.67

Agricultural

60.45

Chemicals and disinfectants

81.11

General plant supplies

3,022.56

34,212.48

Carried forward

\$907,567.65

# EXPENSES. DECEMBER 31, 1926

CR.

By CITY APPROPRIATION 1926 . . . . .	\$1,000,981.00	
Income from Trust Funds . . . . .	26,117.28	
Income from James L. Whitney Bibliographic account. . . . .	700.00	
Interest on deposit in London . . . . .	182.80	
Transfer to City appropriation, London account . . . . .	4,000.00	
	<u>          </u>	\$1,031,981.08

By BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD FROM 1925:		
Trust funds income, City Treasurer . . . . .	56,722.87	
plus omission in 1925 report . . . . .	10.00	56,732.87
Trust funds income on deposit in London . . . . .		3,392.67
City appropriation on deposit in London . . . . .		3,441.92
James L. Whitney Bibliographic account . . . . .		5,738.33
Library Building Addition, equipping and furnishing . . . . .		11,799.39
	<u>          </u>	81,105.18

Carried forward . . . . . \$1,113,086.26



# BALANCE SHEET, RECEIPTS AND

**DR.**

Brought forward.		\$907,567.65
To expenditure for material:		
Electrical	3,852.22	
General plant	9,943.56	
	<hr/>	13,795.78
Special item:		
Pension	863.50	
	<hr/>	863.50
BINDING DEPARTMENT:		
Salaries	52,583.15	
Stock	5,255.11	
Equipment	245.53	
Light (Gas for heating)	48.86	
Freight	3.80	
Repairs	40.85	
Ice and small supplies	48.80	
	<hr/>	58,226.10
PRINTING DEPARTMENT:		
Salaries	12,127.72	
Stock	3,348.45	
Equipment	5,711.89	
Light (Gas for heating)	33.27	
Repairs	110.38	
Outside work	226.08	
Material, ice and small supplies	44.44	
Insurance	35.10	
	<hr/>	21,637.33
TO AMOUNT PAID INTO CITY TREASURY:		
From fines	17,620.89	
Sales of catalogues, bulletins and lists	98.67	
Commission on telephone stations	578.57	
Payments for lost books	1,151.90	
Sale of waste paper	97.44	
Interest on deposit	36.49	
Refund on contract	15.48	
	<hr/>	19,599.44
TO BALANCE, DECEMBER 31, 1926:		
Trust funds income on deposit in London	4,040.16	
City appropriation on deposit in London	6,443.50	
Trust funds income, City Treasury	58,034.16	
James L. Whitney Bibliographic account	6,438.33	
Interest on deposit in London	182.80	
	<hr/>	75,138.95
BALANCE UNEXPENDED:		
General appropriation	24,057.56	
Special appropriation, Library Building Addition	11,799.39	
	<hr/>	35,856.95
		<hr/>
		\$1,132,681.70

## EXPENSES. DECEMBER 31, 1926

CR.

<i>Brought forward</i> . . . . .		\$1,113,086.26
BY RECEIPTS:		
From fines . . . . .	17,620.89	
Sales of catalogues, bulletins and lists . . . . .	98.67	
Commission on telephone stations . . . . .	578.57	
Payments for lost books . . . . .	1,151.90	
Sale of waste paper . . . . .	97.44	
Interest on deposit . . . . .	36.49	
Refund on contract . . . . .	15.48	
	<hr/>	19,599.44

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\$1,132,685.70

# REPORT OF THE EXAMINING COMMITTEE

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
OF THE CITY OF BOSTON.

*Gentlemen:*

The Examining Committee takes pleasure in submitting its Report for the year ending January 31, 1927.

## INTRODUCTION

The Examining Committee as constituted this year has the advantage of the course recently adopted of continuing some members from the preceding year. These members have brought to this Committee an understanding of some of the great problems of the Public Library and its administration, while those serving their first term have taken active interest in the various duties of this Committee.

The Examining Committee this year consisted of twenty-six members, each having some definite interest or qualifications for examining and advising on different functions of the Boston Public Library. The Committee was divided into the following Sub-Committees:

Administration and Finance.

Buildings and Equipment.

Branches.

Printing and Binding.

Special Libraries.

Children's Department and Work with Schools.

Each Sub-Committee consisted of three or more members with the exception of the one on Branches. The work of this Committee is so definitely a part of the main purpose of an advisory committee for the examination and report upon the

condition of property that all members of the Examining Committees were assigned to the examination of various groups of the thirty-one branches. This course resulted in many visits and the careful examination of the condition and work of every branch.

The detailed reports of the Sub-Committees are submitted for your consideration. While recognizing that the function of the Examining Committee is entirely advisory, its members are fully appreciative of the great service being rendered by the Boston Public Library and feel strongly the need of co-operative effort to properly maintain and extend the buildings and equipment of this highly important civic department.

#### ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

In the opinion of the Committee the amounts allowed for various purposes have been economically expended, and although certain needed repairs have been made, the amount of money appropriated for the physical upkeep of the main library has not been sufficient to put this beautiful building in the condition which its importance in the community warrants, to enable it to give the service to the citizens of the City of Boston to which they are entitled.

It is hoped that the appropriation to be asked for by the Trustees for repairs and improvements will be granted.

Your Committee also wishes to repeat the recommendation of the Committee appointed last year, that efforts be made to obtain further endowment funds for the Library. The Library is sadly lacking in this respect. In this great educational centre, where 50,000 students this year have made use of the Library's facilities, it would seem to the Committee that if the financial needs of the Library could be brought before the people of Boston and its environs in a forceful way financial interest would be awakened and contributions follow.

#### BUILDINGS AND EQUIPMENT

Though the physical condition of the Copley Square Building has been much improved in the last year or two, there still re-

mains a good deal to be done to bring back this building to a proper condition.

The principal change needed is the re-arrangement of the present Music Room, the Barton-Ticknor Room and the long North Gallery. The needs of a proper Treasure Room have long been felt, and the Trustees have wisely decided to adapt the Music Room for a Treasure Room where the priceless books owned by the Library can be kept and properly viewed.

The changes required in the building are of a very serious nature to accomplish this result and to rearrange the Barton-Ticknor Room and the North Gallery, but the results are most important and are worth the expenditure of money which it is hoped can be arranged on the basis of a bond issue by the City.

The Committee recommends stressing the policy of building branches as separate units under the control of the Trustees, where such branches have proved themselves to be successful in localities at the present time served through leased quarters. Efforts should be made to interest the Mayor and officials in this policy, for it is believed that only by carrying it out will the problem of the branches be properly solved. In such localities as Allston, Mt. Bowdoin, Andrew Square, Boylston Station and other places where the branches have proved their great value to the public, efforts should now be made to provide library service in permanent and satisfactory form by means of modern buildings.

#### BRANCHES

The Chairman and members of this Committee received much assistance from the Supervisor of Branches, attending a Staff Meeting of the Librarians, and were given every opportunity of examining the conditions and workings of the branches.

The natural tendency in persons making a visit, perhaps their first visit, to a library is to notice the things which are readily seen. Therefore we would stress, in beginning, one part of the system of branch libraries which, centering at the Central Library, is basic to all the system — the recent development of regular training of the large staff, for a higher grade personnel in the branches. For the librarians and their assistants — as hos-

tesses, as interpreters of books and of the needs of individual readers — can largely make or break the full usefulness of a library.

The following definite suggestions are made, looking towards needed improvements in the branches. First, a few general statements of ideals to be set up and approached as fast as is possible. The management and the use of libraries are bettered when they are housed in buildings which are used exclusively for libraries and whose care, heating, etc., are thus controlled by the Library department. Some branches are under halls used for gymnasias and meetings, with much noise and jarring therefrom.

There is the usual request for more new books, at the time when persons are asking for them.

Most important, the Committee urges the Trustees that they formulate and follow up a definite policy to replace present rented quarters with adequate buildings owned by the City.

#### PRINTING AND BINDING

The Printing Department is running to its full capacity, with a considerable volume of work ahead. No immediate changes in equipment or conduct are considered necessary.

The Binding Department has to do a large amount of reinforcement of new books, as well as the re-binding of old. The sewing machine added a few years ago has greatly increased the output of this department and an application has been made for another machine of this kind. The Examining Committee approves of this request as being a desirable addition.

The advantages of new equipment and improved methods are shown by double the number of books bound now over that often years ago with a less number of employees. The Committee commends the Printing and Binding Departments as being important factors in the conduct of the Library.

#### SPECIAL LIBRARIES

Your Sub-Committee reiterates the recommendation made last year that steel stacks be installed in the "Barton-Ticknor

Gallery for added space to accommodate the music and present special collections. The use of steel stacks would add greatly to the capacity, safety and cleanliness."

Mention has been made of the desirability of converting the present Music Room into a specially protected and fire-proof room for the storage and exhibition of the more valuable books. This is something which should be done as soon as possible in order to safeguard the Library's treasures and to permit the rearrangement of the different departments of the Special Libraries.

The Sub-Committee also recommends that the repainting be continued with due consideration for the season of the year and the use required of the different departments. Certain members of the Sub-Committee have noticed the evidence of leaks from the roof coming down inside onto the stacks and cannot refrain from expressing their amazement that the Library should not have been placed in position to protect its books, to house which was the sole purpose of its being built.

The Sub-Committee believes that the resources of the Special Libraries should be much better known to the citizens and that continued plans should be taken to secure increased utilization through appropriate publicity. As a step in this direction it is recommended that the Trustees consider the possible appointment of honorary visiting committees on some of the special libraries. A small group of interested specialists co-operating with the library staff should be able to facilitate desirable contacts with the students and teachers in the field. This would be a simple extension of existing procedure.

This is the first time that several members of the Sub-Committee have had any occasion to observe the condition of the Library, beyond perhaps the main staircase. They have been amazed and shocked at the condition that the Library has been allowed to drift into, not in any way through the fault of the staff, but through lack of funds for adequate maintenance. Our Public Library is probably the best known asset, the world over, that the City of Boston has. It is one of the famous libraries of the world. The building is noted for its beauty

and its solid construction. It has been allowed to run down in a most deplorable fashion. It seems a pity and almost criminal that an institution of this character, belonging to all the citizens of Boston, should be treated in this manner.

#### CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT AND WORK WITH SCHOOLS

The Sub-Committee finds that suggestions made by the previous committee have been carried out in so far as possible, but that much remains to be done and again the emphasis falls on increase of appropriations for this department. Juvenile work has not come to its own, but has made such advance as to prove its value and importance.

The Committee recommends:

1. Trained children's librarians in all branches.
2. Increased facilities for children's use of the library.
3. Further co-operation between library and schools.

The fact that children throng to the branches, in twenty out of thirty-one cases outnumbering the adults, is significant. It calls for a careful study of the situation with a view to the needs, welfare and future interests of the child. If he comes to a neat, attractive room with chairs, tables, lights and shelves adapted to his needs, and finds there a librarian trained to guide his reading, he will steadily advance towards the best habitual use of the library in years of maturity.

The story-telling hour in branches and in schools is highly commended for its value as an introduction to good reading and as an aid to teachers, particularly in English, history and art.

Library and school co-operation is developing rapidly, but again progress is limited by lack of resources. Branch libraries in high schools are being tried out. Consignment of library books to public schools has proved serviceable, but more books and space are needed.

The Committee notes with pleasure the growing interest taken by all in the children's use of the Library. Teachers and librarians are particularly to be commended in the many in-



stances where they are working with restricted means, often at great personal sacrifice, for the sheer pleasure of meeting the eager desire of young readers. School and Library authorities in turn seem to be doing all in their power to help, but the public remains uninformed and indifferent. The closing suggestion is accordingly that special publicity be given to the needs of children. A special endowment might be created for the advancement of Children's Library work in Boston.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee as a whole wishes to emphasize the urgent need of remedying some of the conditions which have been found to exist.

1. The necessity of continuing the allotment of funds, as in the last two years, for the repairs of the roof and electric lighting system, and for painting in the Central Library.
2. The urgency of obtaining better quarters for some of the branches, with the general policy of individual buildings adequate to the future needs of the rapidly growing sections of the city.
3. The plan of co-operation with the Library of the School of Business Administration of Harvard University in the establishment of a Business Reference Library is commended as offering an important service to the business interests of this community.
4. The safe-guarding of the manuscript and book treasures in a fire-proof location known as the Treasure Room is an imperative need, requiring special funds.
5. The publication of the Bulletin in enlarged form under the title "More Books" provides excellent information about the libraries and new books. Still greater publicity is needed in order that the citizens of Boston may understand more fully the great services rendered by the Library in educational work and as a cultural service to the City as a whole through its Central Library and thirty-one branches.

**CONCLUSIONS**

The Committee extends its thanks to the Director and Staff for the full co-operation extended in examination of the Library and its conduct. The insight afforded into the affairs of this great institution cannot fail to produce a permanent appreciation and the desire that its urgent needs in maintenance, extension and endowment be more widely known.

Adopted as the Report of the Examining Committee,  
February 25, 1927.

## REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR.

### TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

I respectfully submit my report for the year ending December 31, 1926.

### THE PROGRESS OF THE YEAR.

Although the past year was unmarked by any event of striking significance in the administration of the Library, the home circulation of books, as noted below, showed a sturdy growth, while the increase in the use of reference material in the central building and in the thirty-one branches, of which no record is kept, was normal and in volume most encouraging. The chief and outstanding complaint of the users of the Library system is that they are unable to obtain the required book when called for, an evidence of the well-known fact that the Library is still unable to buy a sufficient number of copies of a new book to meet the reasonable demand for it.

Many repairs of both major and minor moment have been accomplished during 1926. The ventilating system of the Library has been re-established and put in good repair, and now includes an efficient air-washing equipment. The book railway system has been completely over-hauled, and the railways in the six floors of stacks are now in satisfactory operation. The Central Library boilers have all been re-tubed with new drain valves. An automatic oiling system has been installed in the power plant. Major repairs on the roof of the Central Building have begun. The statistical department, the lecture hall, the map room, the central branch department, and the exhibit room in the Central Library have all been cleaned and decorated. To provide for the increased work of the Central Branch Department, a mezzanine floor has been built. Throughout the

branch system necessary repairs, painting, and equipment, have been carried out. The East Boston Branch Library has been re-painted inside and out, and repairs made to the parapet walls. Major repairs, including the painting of the exterior wood-work have been accomplished at the West End Branch. After thirty years of service, the four large ornate groups of lanterns in front of the Central Building are being re-built.

On Monday, September 27, 1926, the Warren Street Branch gave up its rented quarters and occupied the fine new rooms especially provided for it in the Memorial High School Building on the corner of Warren and Townsend Streets, Roxbury. This is the only branch library in Boston occupying quarters in a school building. The accommodations are ample and attractive, and it will be most interesting to watch the result of this experiment as regards the use of the branch both by children and by adults. The Fellowes Athenæum Branch was completely remodeled during the year; and additional reading-room space was provided at the Lower Mills and Mattapan Branches.

In March the Library started publication of a monthly bulletin under a new name, "More Books," and in a new form. This seems to be meeting the need of the public for a classified list of new books and is also serving to bring to the attention of the citizens of Boston the important possessions and acquisitions of the Library, as well as its needs.

The Library has been especially fortunate in being able to offer, in conjunction with its regular lecture course, a second series of chamber-music concerts through the courtesy of Mrs. Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge. They have been eagerly sought by an appreciative group of people. As an outcome of the interest that has developed from the course of lectures on the Symphony Concert Programs, now being given for the third year, with a total registration of 383, the Library has received as gifts, during 1926, 108 records from the Victor Talking Machine Company, 47 records from the General Phonograph Corporation, and 91 records from the Columbia Phonograph Company; the latter company has just presented to the Library their latest Viva-

Tonal phonograph. The records are of the type of compositions played during the year by the Boston Symphony Orchestra.

During the summer months, in honor of the anniversary of the American Library Association, an extensive exhibition was held to illustrate library progress during the fifty years which have passed since the organization of the Association. Not only the publications of the national association and its development were featured, but also the work since 1890 of the Board of Free Public Library Commissioners of the Commonwealth, of which the Director of the Boston Library is Chairman. The major part of the exhibit was naturally given to the growth and work of the Public Library of the City of Boston and its branches since 1876. The exhibition proved most attractive and gave pleasure and satisfaction to hosts of visitors. A descriptive pamphlet was issued for distribution, entitled, "A Library Exhibit, 1876-1926."

#### CIRCULATION AND ACCESSION OF BOOKS.

In the past year the total circulation of books was 3,499,137, a gain of 369,356 over the circulation of 1925. This does not represent the net gain, however, since the city fiscal year of 1925 included but eleven months. For a twelve months' period the gain was 217,630. The total circulation through the branches, including books issued from Central Library collections on borrowers' cards, was 3,158,552. Deposits amounted to 86,570 volumes, sent to 326 agencies. The total number of volumes sent to schools, at the request of 1,472 teachers, was 56,818. Interlibrary loans amounting to 1,830 volumes, were sent to 1,094 applicants; 592 requests were regretfully refused. Direct home circulation from the Central Library was 340,585, a gain of 26,877 volumes over 1925.

There were 31,693 new registrations and 38,021 renewals of lapsed privileges during 1926, making a total of 69,714 cards added during the year. Borrowers who failed to renew their cards amounted to 63,696. On December 31, there was, therefore, a total of 135,445 live cards, a gain of 6,018 over the previous year. Teachers' registration showed a renewal of

1400 cards and new registrations amounting to 399; this gives a total of 1,799 teachers' cards in use. Special privilege cards were issued to 658 persons in 1926; of these 504 were renewals and 154 new cards.

The total number of volumes added to the Library collections in 1926 was 93,867, acquired as follows: 80,146 by purchase, 10,772 by gift, 38 by exchange, 2,911 by binding periodical literature and serials. Of the books purchased, 12,711 volumes were added to Central Library collections, and 67,435 were placed in branch libraries and in the Central branch deposit collection.

The total amount expended for accessions by purchase was \$150,161.92. For the first time in the history of the Library, the current city appropriation for books, periodicals, pictures, etc., reached the sum of \$125,000. In 1916 the city money spent for books, periodicals, etc. was \$33,561.09, with which 26,426 volumes, 2,731 periodicals, and other material were bought. The question might well be asked why an increase in the book allowance of almost three hundred per cent in ten years is insufficient for present-day needs. The answer is that in this period the Library has been steadily expanding, and that new branches, new deposit stations, new divisions within the Central Library all take their toll of the book fund. Reference collections have been built up in the branches; the old and infrequently used volumes have been gradually superseded by new books and the Bates Hall collections have been brought up to date. New developments in the field of knowledge in recent years—psychology, business administration, adult education, the great expansion in the realm of science—call for the acquisition of the latest books and periodicals which are indispensable and which make large inroads on the book money. Books wear out and their replacement is costly. Fiction at \$1.50 or less a volume has now been superseded by fiction at \$2.00 or more a volume. There are also many bibliographical activities in the library world, some international in scope, dependent for their support on the large libraries which will be chiefly benefited by the resulting publications, and the book fund should be sufficient to

permit the Library to contribute its share toward their achievement. The rapidly opening work of adult education places a new responsibility upon the Library, if it is to play its essential part in helping our citizens to add to their power through the use of books.

The increasing appropriations for the purchase of books have scarcely kept pace with the advancing demands upon the library; the failure of a corresponding increase in the endowment of the Library from private sources has caused it to lose ground in the effort to maintain its foremost place among the scholarly public libraries of the country.

A general accounting shows that in 1926 the branches absorbed \$97,690.62 for books, periodicals and newspapers, including \$43,162.87 for books for younger readers. The remaining \$27,309.38 was expended for the Central Library for periodicals, newspapers, the books of the day and, as far as funds permitted, the books published two or three years since, whose importance seems assured and whose purchase was either overlooked or deferred at the time of issue.

The acquisitions of unusual interest and importance which are noted below have been bought with the income from trust funds.

From the Clawson sale of early Elizabethan and Stuart literature this Library, with a relatively small sum at its disposal, secured six books which are distinct additions to the Barton Library. At the sale, said to be one of the greatest book sales of modern times, many of the works sold at prices quite beyond our resources, but of the 926 books listed in the catalogue, about 300, including eleven of the thirteen Shakespeare quartos, were already possessed by the Library. The titles of the books bought are as follows:

Massinger, Philip, Thomas Middleton and William Rowley. The excellent comedy, called The old law: or A new way to please you. Together with an exact and perfect catalogue of all the playes, with the authors names. More exactly printed then ever before. 1656.  
 Niccols, Richard. The three sisters teares. Shed at the late solemne funerals of the royall deceased Henry, Prince of Wales. London: Printed by T. S. for Richard Redmer. 1613.

**Quarles, Francis.** Emblemes by Fra: Quarles. Engraved title and 78 engravings by Marshall and others. London: Printed by G. M. and sold at Iohn Marriots shope. 1635. The first edition, second issue.

**Shirley, James.** Honoria and Mammon. Whereunto is added the contention of Ajax and Ulisses, for the armour of Archilles. As it was represented by young gentlemen of quality at a private entertainment of some persons of honour. Engraved portrait by Gaywood, dated 1658. London: Printed for John Crook. 1659. First edition, second issue.

**Twyne, Thomas.** The schoolemaster or teacher of table phylosophie. A most pleasant and merie companion, well worthy to be welcomed. Black letter. Imprinted at London, by Richard Iohnes. 1583. First edition.

**Wither, George.** A collection of emblemes, ancient and moderne. The first booke. With the second booke, the third booke, and the fourth booke. Engraved frontispiece by Marshall, portrait of Wither by John Payne, 200 engraved vignettes by Crispin de Pass and double woodcut lottery table at the end. London. Printed by A. M. for Richard Royston. 1635. First edition, with the preliminary leaf.

From the Autograph Collection of the late Charles P. Greenough of Brookline the Library bought two items of especial local interest.

**An original Indian deed of Noddle's Island,** "containing . . . one thousand acres . . . more or less together with all the flatts to low water mark", made by Charles Joseph, Indian Sachem, to Samuel Shrimpton of Boston "for a valuable consideration." This deed was confirmed on May 1, 1684, by Governor William Stoughton and Joseph Dudley and is signed by various Indians in release and as witnesses.

**An autograph letter from Richard Clarke,** a merchant of Boston to whom the "Boston Tea Party" tea was consigned and who, in consequence, had been driven to Castle Island. His letter, dated "Castle William, March 30, 1774", is addressed to John Greenough and expresses sorrow on hearing that a chest of tea had been destroyed.

**There were also acquired four large manuscript account books of the Watertown Arsenal of the Revolutionary Army.** The books were kept by William Hunt, Commissary in charge of the Arsenal. April 19, 1775 is the date of the first entry and February 28, 1781 that of the last. These books are filled with accounts of the disbursement of stores.

**An important acquisition was an original manuscript Orderly Book,** from July 8, 1775 (five days after Washington assumed command)



to October 26, 1775, written by 2nd Lieutenant Peter Scull, at the Camp before Boston; from May 26, 1777 to June 5, 1777, at Middlebrook, New Jersey. This manuscript contains general orders by Generals Washington, Putnam, Lee and Greene, and the regimental commander, Col. Thompson of the Pennsylvania Rifle Regiment, covering the period of organization of the American Army before Boston.

From the Britwell Court sale in London only two books were secured: "A forme of prayer used at Newport in the Isle of Wight. 15 Sept. 1648" for the Benton Collection; and an Italian grammar written in Latin by Scipio Lentulus and "Turned into Englishe by H. G., London, 1575."

The first issue of a pamphlet protesting against taxation was secured in the "Rules and orders to be observed by the Anti-Stamp Fire Society, Instituted in Boston October 1, 1763." Among the names listed are those of John Lowell, Herman Brimmer, Thomas Hill, Samuel Breck, Nathaniel Bethune, Daniel Sargent and William Tudor. Apparently no other copy has been discovered.

A noteworthy purchase was an Armenian MS.—a complete text of the New Testament written on vellum, containing forty full-page illustrations and over one hundred illuminated initials and marginal ornamentations. The colophon states that the finishing of this book was in 924 of the time of Greater Armenia. The year 924 of the Armenian calendar corresponds to the year 1475 of the Christian era. The binding of heavy hand-wrought silver was made in 1663.

To the Fine Arts collection of the Special Libraries Department the following important works have been added:

Ardenne de Tizac, Jean Henri d'. Animals in Chinese art. London. 1923.

Burlington Fine Arts Club, London. Catalogue of an exhibition of carvings in ivory. London. 1923.

Butler, A. J. Islamic pottery. London. 1926.

Gromort, Georges. Jardins d'Espagne. 2 v. Paris. 1926.

Richter, Gisela M. A. and Albert W. Barker. Ancient furniture. A history of Greek, Etruscan and Roman furniture. Oxford. 1926.

Shepherd, J. C. and G. A. Jellicoe. Italian gardens of the Renaissance. London. 1925.

Siren, Osvald. The imperial palaces of Peking. 3 v. Paris 1926. (volume 1 received).

Tanner, P. de. Chinese jade, ancient and modern. Descriptive catalogue. 2 v. Berlin. 1925.

Visser, H. F. E., editor. The exhibition of Chinese art of the Society of Friends of Asiatic art. 2 v. Amsterdam. 1925.

Yashiro, Yukio. Sandro Botticelli. 2 v. London. 1925.

Among miscellaneous works of interest which have been acquired are *Monumenta Cartographica*, edited by F. C. Wieder, consisting of reproductions of unique and rare maps; *Poor Richard's Almanack*, *The Way to Wealth* as clearly shown in an old Pennsylvania Almanack, entitled *Poor Richard Improved*; and *The Whistle*, London, Privately printed, 1816.

During the year gifts have been received as follows: 11,444 volumes, 13,504 serials, 2,431 photographs, 52 newspaper subscriptions, and for current file use in the Branch Division and Information Room, 731 volumes and 9,566 pieces of miscellaneous material, booksellers' catalogues, and government publications.

From Mr. Louis E. Kirstein the sum of one thousand dollars was received, to be added to the "Louis E. Kirstein Fund" and the income to be used in accordance with the terms of the original gift.

There was received under a decree of the Supreme Judicial Court in Equity of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts \$3,858.24, being the sum remaining in the hands of the surviving trustees of the fund originally raised to install in the Library decorations by the late John S. Sargent. This sum has been funded as the "John Singer Sargent Fund" and the income will be used for the care and preservation of the Sargent decorations and such other purposes as are set forth in the decree.

Mrs. John Elliott, on behalf of a Committee of Citizens, presented two studies of Mr. Elliott's mural painting, "The Triumph of Time."

A marble copy of the *Psyche of Capua* was received from Mrs. Langdon Pearse of Winnetka, Illinois.

Certain additional gifts of interest, with the names of the donors, are listed on pages 63-67 of the Appendix.

#### CATALOGUE AND SHELF DEPARTMENT.

The number of volumes and parts of volumes catalogued during 1926 was 109,738 and the number of titles was 74,148. Of these, 57,473 volumes (50,246 titles) were assigned to the branches and were catalogued in the Branch Department, but are included here to show the total bulk of this part of the work.

The number of printed cards added to the catalogues of the Central Library alone was 66,169, and 26,359 were used in compiling bibliographies, or were reserved for such use in the future. The distribution of cards among the departments of the Central Library was: Bates Hall 26,763; Official Catalogue, 27,622; Special Libraries, 11,784. Cards were also sent as usual to the Library of Congress and were saved for the Harvard College Library.

In order to hasten the appearance of new books in our catalogues, 10,851 temporary cards have been typed by the Card Division, to be replaced later by printed cards. As the result of this device, titles of recent accessions have been in the catalogues as soon as the books have been placed on the shelves. Over 4000 cards have also been typed for the use of the Editor.

#### PUBLICATIONS.

With the beginning of 1926 a new series of the Library bulletin was started under the title of *More Books*. The chief feature of the publication is, as formerly, the selected list of new books. Besides the list, however, each issue carries several articles mainly relating to the book treasures and manuscripts of the Library. There are also popular features, such as notes on important new books, on gifts to the Library, and on other matters of Library interest.

The new publication met with instantaneous success. The first issue, a triple number, appeared in March, and the edition was exhausted in less than three weeks. The demand, ever since, has been increasing. During the year six issues were printed, with a total of 376 pages.

In several points the new bulletin differs radically from the Quarterly. In *More Books* the classification method has been adopted for the list of new books, instead of the dictionary method. The classified list is more comprehensible for the average reader. He finds there the books in which he is primarily interested grouped together under one heading; and the Synopsis of Classification, printed before the list, makes it easy for him

to find a particular group of books sought for. The method of classification was, in fact, a return to an old practice. Between 1896 and 1908 the bulletin of the Library had been arranged in the form of a classified list and the records show that the demand for the bulletin was greatest during those years.

For a large number of items in the List of New Books, short descriptive annotations, indicating the subject, summarizing the contents or giving information about the author and his viewpoint, enliven the list and make it more interesting and useful.

It should be mentioned here that Mr. Zoltán Haraszti, as newly appointed Editor of Publications, began his duties with the first issue of *More Books*. Since May, 1926, Miss Margaret Münsterberg has been working as assistant in the Department.

To the series of *Brief Reading Lists*, published by the Library, one number has been added during the year. In connection with the Boston performances of "Carmencita" and "Lysistrata" a list (No. 35), The Moscow Art Theatre Musical Studio, was compiled by Mr. Lucien E. Taylor, of the Catalogue Department.

Bibliographical lists have been printed for the lectures on the programs of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, given by the Massachusetts Division of University Extension in co-operation with the Library. The lists were prepared by Mr. Richard G. Appel, assistant in charge of the Music Division. Programs and lists were issued also for the Free Chamber Music Concerts, given through the generosity of Mrs. Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge in the Lecture Hall of the Library. An eight-page leaflet entitled "A Library Exhibit, 1876-1926," descriptive of an exhibition of library progress as illustrated by the American Library Association, The Division of Public Libraries of the State Board of Education and The Boston Public Library, held during the summer months, was issued for distribution.

*Opportunities for Adult Education in Greater Boston*—a list of free public lectures and public educational courses offered by the Massachusetts Division of University Extension, the Lowell Institute, the Commission on Extension Courses, the Public Library, and other institutions—was also published for

the year 1926-27. The pamphlet, consisting of 92 pages, was larger and more comprehensive than any previous issue.

Part IV, (pages 289-384, Int.-Mat.) of the *Guide to Serial Publications founded prior to 1918* and now or recently current in Boston, Cambridge and vicinity, was compiled and issued under the editorship of Mr. Thomas Johnston Homer. Part V is being prepared for publication.

#### BATES HALL.

The radial arrangement of the catalogue cases has stood the test of a year's trial, and is an improvement in many ways over the old plan. The public is better distributed about the room, it is easier to keep the catalogue drawers in place, and less time is wasted by the public at the catalogue than in former years. The provision of low tables at the south windows has put an end to all complaints of discomfort in using the tables at which the catalogue drawers are consulted.

New lighting has been installed at the catalogue cases, so that they are better lighted than ever before. The installation of new lights at the book cases in Bates Hall is going forward and is approaching a satisfactory completion.

There have been no major changes in the arrangement of the reference collection except those resulting from the organization of a Division of Genealogy. Somewhat more space has been allotted to Genealogy and Local History and a case for new books in this field has been installed beside the assistant's desk. On the whole, the space devoted to this subject seems now to be adequate to the needs of the Division. Miss Doyle, the assistant in charge of the Division, has been busy during the year with the organization of her material, the assistance of readers and the response to inquiries received by mail. The new division is justifying itself and the separation of this special field from the general work of the Department has been a real step in advance. During the year, 228 letters on genealogical subjects were answered. It is interesting to note that 27 of these inquiries came from the state of New York, Mass-

achusetts falling to second place in the number of inquiries in this field.

Aside from genealogy, 565 reference letters were answered by the department during the year. Of these, 533 came from the various states of the Union, and 32 from Canada and seven other foreign countries.

During the fall an investigation of the unsuccessful requests for books was undertaken. For about seven weeks, every public department of the Library submitted each morning a list of books which could not be supplied to applicants. These lists were tabulated and a number of interesting facts came to light. It was found that unsuccessful requests fall roughly into the following classes:

(a) Repeated requests for new books of which the supply is insufficient.

These are usually charged "out" and present no problem but that of additional purchase.

(b) Repeated requests for standard books in a few lines, of which volumes disappear almost as soon as they are received by the Library. These include such groups as translations of school texts, text books in popular fields, business books, especially those on salesmanship, technical books of a popular character, current books of humor, books of recitations, etc.

(c) "Missing" books whose numbers are still in the catalogue.

(d) Books misplaced, recently stolen, or otherwise temporarily missing, which are, however, not on the "missing" list.

(e) Books in place on the shelves which fail to be produced through the carelessness or inefficiency of stack assistants.

The second class above presents a special problem which is probably common to all large libraries. A certain portion of the community feels at certain times a pressing and desperate need of certain books which it has not the means or inclination to buy. Translations of texts used in school and college may be taken as the type of this class of books. Plans are being worked out for reserving books of this type for legitimate users. Plans are also being made to check the misplacement of books and inefficiency in searching for them.

## NEWSPAPER AND PATENT ROOMS.

No definite record is kept of the use of the Newspaper Room. The capacity of the room has been taxed at all hours of the day and evening by persons who consulted the 274 papers regularly kept on file. Of these, 214 are daily and 60 weekly papers; 193 are published in the United States and 81 in foreign countries. The bound volumes now number 9,243, an increase of 151 since 1925.

Seven hundred and fifty new volumes were added to the Patent Room during the year. The use of the collection can only be estimated, since the shelves are open and the books freely accessible to the readers. Over 19,000 persons used the room in 1926.

INFORMATION OFFICE, GOVERNMENT DOCUMENT ROOM  
AND OPEN SHELF ROOM.

The Information Office grows in usefulness as a clearing house for ephemeral material. Here is kept the ready reference material which places at the disposal of the public in the shortest possible time a directory service, consisting of the latest available telephone and city directories of the United States and larger European cities; current federal and state documents supplemented by lists compiled to assist the public in their use; business and vocational files which provide information through Chamber of Commerce reports and other business publications; and catalogues of educational institutions of every type.

In the Open Shelf Room an attempt has been made to keep books in circulation by a careful study of unusual demands. The more popular new books, — for example, Durant's "Story of Philosophy," Dorsey's "Why we behave like human beings," and Barnes's "Genesis of the World War" — bring into activity other books in the field of philosophy, psychology and history. The open-shelf collection is constantly changed to meet the demand stimulated by the newer books of non-fiction.

The circulation from the room for 1926 was 44,097, a gain of 2,904 over 1925. The turn-over for each book is estimated at 15 times a year.

PERIODICAL ROOM.

In the Periodical Room there has been a steady growth of reference work. One room has been set apart for this purpose; clippings of newspaper and other material have been collected for debates; a visible guide to all periodicals received by the Library has been attached to the wall and made easily accessible to inquirers. The use of both bound and unbound periodicals showed a normal increase. Over 2,600 volumes were bound in 1926.

The current periodicals, exclusive of those issued by state and federal governments, regularly filed in the Periodical Department number 1,262. In addition there are filed for use by readers in other departments current periodicals especially relating to the fields covered by those departments, as follows:

Fine Arts and Music Divisions of the Special Libraries.	. . . . .	131
Ordering Department.	. . . . .	27
Statistical Department.	. . . . .	50
Teachers' Reference Room and Children's Room.	. . . . .	62

SPECIAL LIBRARIES DEPARTMENT.

The Special Libraries include all the collections housed on the third floor of the Central Building and comprise the divisions of Fine Arts, Music, Technology and Special Collections (Barton-Ticknor Division).

The numerous changes in arrangement and organization carried out in 1925 and mentioned in the last Annual Report have resulted in better service. This improved service is reflected in increased circulation and a marked growth in "hall use," which latter cannot be shown by statistics. A number of minor improvements have been added in the past year and several more important changes in equipment and organization of material are under way.

The renovation and relighting of the Exhibition Room have had the satisfactory results anticipated. It is much to be desired that the work of refinishing be continued to include the Special Libraries Delivery and Reading Rooms, both in great need of repainting.



The plans for steel stacks in the North Gallery and the Barton-Ticknor Room, the refinishing of these rooms and the conversion of the Music Room into a Treasure Room, mentioned in the last Annual Report, have been worked out in detail and will be put into execution as soon as the necessary funds have been secured.

The Fine Arts Division has continued to build up its important collections. The accessions under the new classification now fill an entire alcove and are already a great help in reference work. The open-shelf collection arranged on the lines of the expansive classification made in 1925 has been extended and has given service beyond expectations.

The Technology Division has continued to build up its well organized book collection and its equipment of special reference tools. To safeguard the collection it has been necessary to abolish altogether the shelves for the display of new books, but this loss has been repaired by issuing for public distribution a monthly mimeographed list, *New Technical Books*.

The Music Division has continued its series of interpretive lectures on symphony concerts and operas, and for these lectures annotated programs and book lists have been issued as during the preceding year.

The number of books issued for home use from the Special Libraries during the year was 23,525, an increase of three and one-half per cent as compared with last year. For use outside the Library there were issued 29,148 pictures and 9,799 lantern slides.

#### STATISTICAL DEPARTMENT.

The circulation of the statistical books does not vary much. In 1926 there were issued for home use 2,196 volumes; 2,037 were sent to Bates Hall and elsewhere for use within the building and 12,000 volumes were used in the department. The total number of books housed in the Statistical Department is 24,337. New books added during the year amounted to 563 volumes. These figures do not include the documents of various states and countries, the administration of which belongs to the Statistical Department.

## WORK WITH CHILDREN.

Although the total circulation of books to children under sixteen years of age was 1,631,436, or 23 for each of the 70,424 cardholders in this class, it is apparent that there are still too many who are not using library privileges. Registration shows that only 62 per cent of enrolled school children are cardholders in the Library.

This situation may be due to the inadequate provisions for children in some of the branches. In four of the branch libraries, facilities have been much improved during the last year. The new Memorial Branch at Roxbury is modern in lay-out and well equipped. At Mattapan and Lower Mills additional space was secured and the children's work has been given the impetus that always follows its separation from that with adults.

The reconstruction of the building belonging to the Fellowes Athenæum has transformed a dark and unattractive waiting room into a pleasant children's room of somewhat old-fashioned type, in conformity with the period of the building. A small and cheerful club room in the basement affords much satisfaction because there can be gathered together on many afternoons the informal reading clubs which are conducted by members of the library staff.

However, the need at South Boston, Dorchester, Mount Bowdoin, Codman Square and Roslindale is pressing. Seating space for the children who flock to the Library is sometimes out of the question, and there is not room enough for shelving the required number of books. Such conditions explain the inability of the Library to hold some of the younger borrowers after the first novelty of becoming cardholders has worn off. As an offset to the cramped and overcrowded quarters there has been a gratifying growth in the force of assistants prepared to give special service to children.

Years of observation of the results of the story hour give added assurance of the validity of its employment as a factor in library work with children. The fine accomplishment of the Library's story tellers in broadening children's interests and establishing sound habits of reading is apparent everywhere.

Only two of the branch libraries have been omitted from the year's schedule—Brighton, where the story-hour room was closed for alterations, and Orient Heights, where it was difficult to make suitable arrangements as to audience and time. Both places will undoubtedly be included in next year's schedule. Work of this kind has been arranged for the older boys and girls in the evening, and the results have been especially rewarding. Equally important are the points of contact made through story telling in the public schools. Not only is the Library becoming better known by this means, but it is reaching children who are obliged to work in their out-of-school hours and are unable to keep in touch with the children's rooms.

Service to schools is growing faster at present than any other type of library work and it is toward the wise development of such work that the Library should direct its attention. There is need for better organization and more unified procedure in all relations between the Library and the public schools. Fitting organization of a School Department of the Library would make it possible to study in a comprehensive way the demands of different sections of the city with a view to strengthening weak positions and coördinating activities already undertaken.

#### THE BRANCH SYSTEM.

Two districts of the city, namely Readville and Germantown, are at present without library branches. A number of other sections of the city are without adequate library provisions. Several of the existing branches require larger accommodations. Suitable provision should be made to permit the establishment of at least four new branch libraries and the enlargement of some of the present branches. A definite program of branch expansion should be considered if suitable library service is to be equitably given to the present and potential users and cardholders of the library system.

The total circulation through the branches was 3,158,552. This is a gain over 1925 of 342,479. The number of books issued from the Central Library through branches was 106,456;

this includes 87,004 from the deposit collection and 19,452 from the stacks of the Central Library. All the branches gained in circulation. The greatest gains were at Upham's Corner, Codman Square, Andrew Square, South Boston, West End, West Roxbury, North End and Mount Bowdoin.

The number of volumes sent on deposit to 326 agencies (212 schools, 56 fire engine houses, and 38 institutions of various kinds) was 86,570 as against 86,400 last year. The total number of volumes sent to schools was 56,818, compared with 56,328 last year. Of this number 19,684 were sent from the Branch Issue Division, Central Library. The number of books issued on deposit from the branch libraries, chiefly to schools, was 37,134, compared with 34,698 in 1925.

Interlibrary loans amounted to 1,830 volumes, 126 more than last year. Of the 1,686 applications received, 592 had to be refused. Twenty-four volumes were borrowed from other libraries.

In September, 1926, the Warren Street Branch moved into large, well-equipped quarters in the new Memorial High School in Roxbury. The Fellowes Athenæum has been entirely remodelled and now has all the conveniences of a modern library building. Reading rooms for adults were provided at the Lower Mills and Mattapan Branches. In the Branch Department of the Central Library a mezzanine floor was built to provide a room for staff meetings and a committee room.

Regular training in library routine is being given by several librarians of major branches. Classes in universal history, reference, and book mending have been attended by twenty-six branch assistants.

#### LECTURES AND EXHIBITIONS.

During the year twenty-two exhibitions were put on view. Of this number eleven were of books and documents and four of prints and photographs in the possession of the Library. There were seven loan exhibitions, none of them comprising books. For list of exhibitions see Appendix, pp. 62-63.

In 1926 there were given in the lecture hall 92 lectures and entertainments under the auspices of the Library, the Ruskin Club, the Drama League, the Field and Forest Club, the Dickens Fellowship, and other organizations. They were, as customary, free to the public.

The lectures were in the following fields: travel, 20; literature, 15; art and archeology, 10; music, 9; drama, 6; and miscellaneous, 13. There were also 19 concerts and plays. Five of the concerts were chamber music by Quartets provided by Mrs. Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge; the Library of Congress, the Curtis Institute of Music, Philadelphia, the Burgin Quartet of Boston, and the Myrtle Jordan Trio were the donors of one concert each. These concerts appealed to so wide a public that the doors were often closed almost an hour before the scheduled beginning. Mrs. Coolidge has graciously offered another series, to consist of eight concerts, for the season of 1927-28. For list of lectures, etc. see Appendix, pp. 58-65.

In 1926-27 the Division of University Extension of the State Department of Education again used the lecture hall every evening except Thursday and Sunday for educational courses. Several courses were also scheduled for afternoon or morning hours.

A course on the programs of the Boston Symphony Orchestra was offered by the Division of University Extension and the Library in collaboration. This was arranged by Richard G. Appel, of the Library staff, who was assisted by other musicians, notably Alfredo Casella, Aaron Copland, Darius Milhaud, Ottorino Respighi, Jesus Sanroma, Roger Huntington Sessions, Nicholas Slonimsky, Walter R. Spaulding, Alexander Lang Steinert, and Thomas Whitney Surette.

#### STAFF INSTRUCTION.

No special courses of staff instruction have been conducted this year, except for branch assistants for whom classes in universal history, reference, and book mending were given. Under the auspices of the Division of University Extension, Professor Robert E. Rogers gave a sixth in his series of courses in literature

primarily for library assistants, entitled "Forms of the Drama."

The Library has probably done about all that it can hope to do in the training of its employees through detached, incidental courses. If the quality of the staff is to be further improved, it must be done by the gradual organization of a system of training within the Library. The practical exclusion of any but college graduates from library schools forces back upon the libraries the education for minor positions of their employees who have only a high-school diploma.

#### BINDERY DEPARTMENT.

The work of the Bindery Department for the year shows a substantial increase, made possible by the new equipment installed in 1925. The work for the branches is now up to date, and it will be possible to make a start on special work which has been awaiting such an opportunity.

The cost of binding 66,946 volumes — the output of the year exclusive of miscellaneous work — was \$50,136.17. This makes the average cost per bound volume, including the repairing of rare and valuable books in the Special Collections, sixty-seven cents.

#### MECHANICAL AND OTHER CHANGES AND REPAIRS.

##### CENTRAL LIBRARY.

The following repairs and improvements were made during 1926:

A portion of the tile roof of the Central Building, about one-half of the total area, underwent major repairs; some twenty thousand tiles were repointed with plastic compound.

Additional painters employed during the year accomplished much necessary work: the Fine Arts Exhibition Room, the Lecture Hall and the Branch Department in the Central Library were refinished.

New furnaces were built in the boilers, new grates furnished and the feed pump overhauled.

New cables were put on both passenger elevators and guide rails were aligned.

New lighting systems were installed in Bates Hall, the Map Room in Stack Six, and the Statistical Department.

Fire walls have been built in the basement where combustibles are stored.

The Lecture Hall of the Library was given a thorough renovation; new draperies were provided for the stage; other draperies were cleaned and emergency exit lights put in place.

In the Branch Department of the Central Library extensive repairs were made, and a new mezzanine floor was built.

#### BRANCH SYSTEM.

The Trustees of the Fellowes Athenæum remodelled their building in accordance with suggestions made by the Director and the Supervisor of Branches with the result that the Fellowes Athenæum Branch now possesses the conveniences and the attractiveness of a modern branch library.

New shelving was installed in Andrew Square, Faneuil, Jamaica Plain and Mount Bowdoin Branches.

New rooms, with equipment, were added to Lower Mills and Mattapan Branches.

Extensive painting was done in the Codman Square, East Boston, Faneuil, and Hyde Park Branches.

New floor covering was placed in the Boylston Station and Mount Bowdoin Branches.

#### RETIREMENTS.

During the year the following persons were retired under the Boston Retirement Act:

*Bindery:* Annie T. Flynn, sewer, (retired April 30, 1926), entered service August 20, 1907; Joanna M. J. Doiron, sewer, (retired May 31, 1926, voluntary), entered service April 9, 1896; *Engineer and Janitor Department:* Hannah Lydon, cleaner, (retired May 31, 1926, disability), entered service October 17, 1907.

## CONCLUSION.

Again it is a pleasure and privilege to commend the interest and devotion of those members of the Library Staff who have with diligence performed the routine work of the department. Individually and collectively the credit is theirs for the effective work of the year. Special recognition is gratefully made of the coöperative service of Miss Della Jean Deery, Executive Secretary, and Mr. Frank H. Chase, Reference Librarian.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES F. D. BELDEN,  
*Director.*



## APPENDIX.

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TABLE OF CENTRAL AND BRANCH CIRCULATION.

	1921-22	1922-23	1923-24	1924-25	1925*	1926
Central Library .	591,640	590,655	576,997	623,024	608,852	644,896
<b>BRANCHES:</b>						
Allston . .	47,328	53,598	57,705	60,358	63,434	74,297
Andrew Square	33,944	33,413	51,991	68,196	68,772	89,662
Boylston Station	50,033	55,672	62,340	64,871	64,559	71,261
Brighton . .	79,397	83,238	87,672	92,702	89,384	101,286
Charlestown .	98,780	101,140	99,035	98,433	95,288	107,562
City Point . .	30,300	38,381	43,277	47,441	50,108	51,154
Codman Square	101,792	103,810	113,529	114,950	119,758	145,001
Dorchester . .	70,396	67,810	75,608	88,628	90,123	100,188
East Boston . .	120,234	120,993	125,968	128,771	125,820	138,691
Faneuil . . .	24,913	24,944	27,004	30,443	31,560	43,782
Fellowes Athen.	80,933	79,125	71,673	76,007	84,765	85,151
Hyde Park . .	80,855	82,498	89,716	95,334	93,582	98,147
Jamaica Plain .	60,507	59,970	64,022	68,630	67,232	73,117
Jeffries Point .	10,309	35,925	40,857	52,020	53,004	58,218
Lower Mills . .	17,765	17,577	25,801	27,259	25,488	32,274
Mattapan . . .	20,499	20,497	27,699	48,789	58,290	69,364
Memorial ¶ . .	104,412	108,665	122,159	136,981	135,913	147,263
Mount Bowdoin	80,492	83,376	98,961	107,679	112,320	125,907
Mount Pleasant	57,562	53,846	52,977	53,953	53,778	59,101
Neposset . . .	28,789	33,263	40,353	41,466	39,479	43,349
North End . .	85,187	96,359	107,329	117,075	121,651	137,896
Orient Heights .	27,970	34,240	30,580	40,605	45,395	58,913
Parker Hill . .	49,209	49,459	44,081	37,038	39,860	43,719
Roslindale . .	80,879	82,597	89,336	94,888	93,154	105,074
Roxbury Crossing	57,609	55,911	57,869	67,143	58,634	62,462
South Boston .	121,194	124,809	139,173	152,799	148,751	169,625
South End . .	97,403	99,543	111,682	117,845	112,578	118,315
Tyler Street . .	40,039	39,973	42,270	37,321	37,436	43,421
Upham's Corner	19,375	120,257	109,731	95,975	100,288	126,010
West End . . .	136,431	142,470	154,267	157,321	152,043	169,142
West Roxbury .	66,470	74,970	81,199	88,249	88,482	104,889
<b>Total. .</b>	<b>2,672,646</b>	<b>2,768,984</b>	<b>2,922,861</b>	<b>3,132,194</b>	<b>3,129,781</b>	<b>3,499,137</b>

\* For a year of eleven months.

¶ Formerly Warren Street Branch.

The net gains and losses in circulation are presented, apart from the totals, in the following form:

	VOLUMES.
1921-22 gain over preceding year . . . . .	223,870
1922-23 gain over preceding year . . . . .	96,338
1923-24 gain over preceding year . . . . .	153,877
1924-25 gain over preceding year . . . . .	209,333
1925* loss from preceding year . . . . .	12,413
1926¶ gain from preceding year (of 11 months) . . . . .	369,356

### USE OF BOOKS.

#### CIRCULATION FROM CENTRAL BY MONTHS.

	HOME USE DIRECT.	HOME USE THROUGH BRANCH DEPT.	SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS THROUGH BRANCH DEPT.	TOTALS.
January, 1926 . . . . .	34,291	11,899	20,950	67,140
February, " . . . . .	32,111	10,481	21,665	64,257
March, " . . . . .	35,863	12,244	22,665	70,772
April, " . . . . .	31,376	9,439	22,375	63,190
May, " . . . . .	28,043	8,185	22,345	58,573
June, " . . . . .	21,782	6,993	19,915	48,690
July, " . . . . .	20,368	5,755	5,190	31,313
August, " . . . . .	29,412	5,093	5,130	39,635
September, " . . . . .	21,633	5,893	7,795	35,321
October, " . . . . .	30,790	9,241	12,290	52,321
November, " . . . . .	34,881	10,855	18,110	63,846
December, " . . . . .	20,035	10,378	19,425	49,838
Totals . . . . .	340,585	106,456	197,855	644,896

#### DISTRIBUTION OF TOTAL CIRCULATION.

CENTRAL LIBRARY:	HOME USE.	SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS.	TOTAL.
a. Direct . . . . .	340,585		
b. Through Branches . . . . .	106,456		
c. Schools and Institutions through Branch Department . . . . .		197,855	644,896
<hr/>			
BRANCHES:			
Allston . . . . .	74,297	.....	74,297
Andrew Square . . . . .	89,662	.....	89,662
Boylston Station . . . . .	71,261	.....	71,261
Brighton . . . . .	62,492	38,794	101,286
Charlestown . . . . .	95,070	12,492	107,562
City Point . . . . .	51,154	.....	51,154
Carried forward . . . . .	443,936	512,86	495,222

\* Eleven months period.

¶ Gain over an approximation of preceding twelve months period 138,279.

<i>Brought forward</i>	443,936	512,86	495,222
Codman Square	134,058	10,943	145,001
Dorchester	81,203	18,985	100,188
East Boston	119,491	19,200	138,691
Faneuil	43,782		43,782
Fellowes Athenæum	66,103	19,048	85,151
Hyde Park	88,185	9,962	98,147
Jamaica Plain	63,160	9,957	73,117
Jeffries Point	58,218		58,218
Lower Mills	32,274		32,274
Mattapan	69,364		69,364
Memorial ¶	142,893	4,370	147,263
Mount Bowdoin	120,268	5,639	125,907
Mount Pleasant	59,101		59,101
Neponset	43,349		43,349
North End	136,825	1,071	137,896
Orient Heights	58,913		58,913
Parker Hill	43,719		43,719
Roslindale	94,666	10,408	105,074
Roxbury Crossing	62,462		62,462
South Boston	147,442	22,183	169,625
South End	104,726	13,589	118,315
Tyler Street	43,421		43,421
Upham's Corner	124,665	1,345	126,010
West End	143,138	26,004	169,142
West Roxbury	86,746	18,143	104,889
	<u>2,612,108</u>	<u>242,133</u>	<u>2,854,241</u>

These figures are condensed into the following:

*Books Lent for Home Use, including Circulation through  
Schools and Institutions.*

From Central Library (including Central Library books issued through the Branches).	644,896
From Branches (excluding books received from Central Library)	2,854,241
Total	3,499,137

COMPARATIVE.	1926.	1925.
Central Library circulation (excluding schools and institutions):		
Direct home use	313,708	340,585
Through Branches	107,419	106,456
	<u>421,127</u>	<u>447,041</u>
Branch Libraries circulation (excluding schools and institutions):		
Direct home use	2,306,889	2,612,108
Schools and institutions circulation (including books from Central through the Branch system)	401,765	439,988
	<u>3,129,781</u>	<u>3,499,137</u>

¶ Formerly Warren Street Branch.

Under the inter-library loan system with other libraries the following use of books for the purpose of serious research is shown for two successive years:

	1925.	1926.
Volumes lent from this Library to other libraries in Massachusetts	1,449	1,580
Lent to libraries outside of Massachusetts . . . . .	255	250
Totals . . . . .	1,704	1,830
Applications refused:		
From libraries in Massachusetts . . . . .	370	475
From libraries outside of Massachusetts . . . . .	104	117
Totals . . . . .	474	592
Borrowed from other libraries for use here . . . . .	31	24

The classified "home-use" circulation of the branches was as follows, for two successive years:

	1925		1926	
	VOLUMES.	PERCENTAGE.	VOLUMES.	PERCENTAGE.
Fiction for adults . . . . .	720,311	32	825,834	32
Non-fiction for adults . . . . .	230,900	10	256,018	10
Juvenile fiction . . . . .	893,115	38	1,022,430	39
Juvenile non-fiction . . . . .	462,563	20	507,826	19

At the Central Library the classified "home-use" circulation shows the following percentages:

	1925	1926
	PERCENTAGES.	PERCENTAGES.
Fiction . . . . .	47.8	48.5
Non-fiction . . . . .	52.2	51.5

BOOK ACCESSIONS.

BOOKS ACQUIRED BY PURCHASE.

	1925.	1926.
For the Central Library:		
From City appropriation . . . . .	7,557	9,474
From trust funds income . . . . .	3,586	3,237
	11,143	12,711
For branches:		
From City appropriation . . . . .	57,874	67,435
From trust funds income . . . . .	3,908	
	61,782	67,435
Totals . . . . .	72,925	80,146

The following statement includes the accessions by purchase combined with books received by gift or otherwise:

	CENTRAL.	BRANCHES.	TOTAL VOLUMES.
Accessions by purchase . . . . .	12,711	67,435	80,146
Accessions by gift . . . . .	10,152	547	10,699
Accessions by Statistical Department . . . . .	73	—	73
Accessions by exchange . . . . .	38	—	38
Accessions by periodicals bound . . . . .	1,566	72	1,638
Accessions by newspapers bound . . . . .	142	—	142
Accessions by series bound . . . . .	1,131	—	1,131
Totals . . . . .	25,813	68,054	93,867

#### THE CATALOGUE.

	1925		1926	
	VOLS. AND PARTS.	TITLES.	VOLS. AND PARTS.	TITLES.
Catalogued (new):				
Central Library Catalogue . . . . .	24,314	14,702	23,496	14,544
Serials . . . . .	5,868	—	5,475	—
Branches . . . . .	58,087	49,494	57,473	50,246
Recatalogued . . . . .	17,889	11,613	17,819	9,358
Totals . . . . .	106,158	75,809	104,263	74,148

#### SHELF DEPARTMENT.

The number of volumes shelved and thus made available for public use, taken from the report of the Shelf Department, is

Placed on the Central Library shelves during the year:		
General collection, new books (including continuations) . . . . .		22,522
Special collection, new books and transfers . . . . .		2,163
Books reported lost or missing in previous years, but now found, transfers from branches, etc . . . . .		1,810
		26,495
Removed from Central Library shelves during the year:		
Books reported lost or missing, condemned copies not yet replaced, transfers, etc. . . . .		13,313
Net gain at Central Library . . . . .		13,182
Net gain at branches . . . . .		11,742
Net gain, entire library system . . . . .		24,924

The total number of volumes available for public use at the end of each year since the formation of the Library is shown in the following statement:

1852-53 . . . . .	9,688	1855-56 . . . . .	28,080
1853-54 . . . . .	16,221	1856-57 . . . . .	34,896
1854-55 . . . . .	22,617	1857-58 . . . . .	70,851

1858-59 . . . . .	78,043	1893 . . . . .	597,152
1859-60 . . . . .	85,031	1894 . . . . .	610,375
1860-61 . . . . .	97,386	1895 . . . . .	628,297
1861-62 . . . . .	105,034	1896-97 . . . . .	663,763
1862-63 . . . . .	110,563	1897-98 . . . . .	698,888
1863-64 . . . . .	116,934	1898-99 . . . . .	716,050
1864-65 . . . . .	123,016	1899-1900 . . . . .	746,383
1865-66 . . . . .	130,678	1900-01 . . . . .	781,377
1866-67 . . . . .	136,080	1901-02 . . . . .	812,264
1867-68 . . . . .	144,092	1902-03 . . . . .	835,904
1868-69 . . . . .	152,796	1903-04 . . . . .	848,884
1869-70 . . . . .	160,573	1904-05 . . . . .	871,050
1870-71 . . . . .	179,250	1905-06 . . . . .	878,933
1871-72 . . . . .	192,958	1906-07 . . . . .	903,349
1872-73 . . . . .	209,456	1907-08 . . . . .	922,348
1873-74 . . . . .	260,550	1908-09 . . . . .	941,024
1874-75 . . . . .	276,918	1909-10 . . . . .	961,522
1875-76 . . . . .	297,873	1910-11 . . . . .	987,268
1876-77 . . . . .	321,010	1911-12 . . . . .	1,006,717
1877-78 . . . . .	345,734	1912-13 . . . . .	1,049,011
1878-79 . . . . .	360,963	1913-14 . . . . .	1,067,103
1879-80 . . . . .	377,225	1914-15 . . . . .	1,098,702
1880-81 . . . . .	390,982	1915-16 . . . . .	1,121,747
1881-82 . . . . .	404,221	1916-17 . . . . .	1,139,682
1882-83 . . . . .	422,116	1917-18 . . . . .	1,157,326
1883-84 . . . . .	438,594	1918-19 . . . . .	1,173,695
1884-85 . . . . .	453,947	1919-20 . . . . .	1,197,498
1885 . . . . .	460,993	1920-21 . . . . .	1,224,510
1886 . . . . .	479,421	1921-22 . . . . .	1,258,211
1887 . . . . .	492,956	1922-23 . . . . .	1,284,094
1888 . . . . .	505,872	1923-24 . . . . .	1,308,041
1889 . . . . .	520,508	1924-25 . . . . .	1,333,264
1890 . . . . .	536,027	1925 . . . . .	1,363,515
1891 . . . . .	556,283	1926 . . . . .	1,388,439
1892 . . . . .	576,237		
Volumes in entire library system . . . . .			1,388,439
Volumes in the branches . . . . .			377,309

These volumes are located as follows:

Central Library . . . . .	1,011,130	Mattapan . . . . .	4,667
Allston . . . . .	6,088	Memorial * . . . .	11,115
Andrew Square . . . . .	5,974	Mount Bowdoin . . .	9,598
Boylston Station . . . . .	6,327	Mount Pleasant . . .	6,169
Brighton . . . . .	19,358	Neponset . . . . .	4,665
Charlestown . . . . .	15,533	North End . . . . .	11,115
City Point . . . . .	5,629	Orient Heights . . .	4,952
Codman Square . . . . .	11,502	Parker Hill . . . . .	4,858
Dorchester . . . . .	14,271	Roslindale . . . . .	11,563
East Boston . . . . .	20,851	Roxbury Crossing . .	7,542
Faneuil . . . . .	5,995	South Boston . . . .	19,921
Fellowes Athenæum . . . . .	36,943	South End . . . . .	14,403
Hyde Park . . . . .	35,020	Tyler Street . . . . .	5,849
Jamaica Plain . . . . .	16,973	Upham's Corner . . .	11,758
Jeffries Point . . . . .	3,941	West End . . . . .	22,332
Lower Mills . . . . .	3,389	West Roxbury . . . .	16,849

\* Formerly Warren Street Branch.

## THE BINDERY.

	1925	1926
Number of volumes bound in various styles . . . . .	59,664	66,946
Magazines stitched . . . . .	197	187
Volumes repaired . . . . .	2,620	2,176
Volumes guarded . . . . .	2,144	1,612
Maps mounted . . . . .	49	90
Photographs, engravings, etc. mounted . . . . .	2,379	4,908
Library publications folded, stitched and trimmed . . . . .	64,162	64,573

## THE PRINTING DEPARTMENT.

	1925	1926
Requisitions received and filled . . . . .	293	237
Card Catalogue (Central Library):		
Titles exclusive of automatic reprint . . . . .	11,058	5,952
Cards finished (exclusive of extras) . . . . .	140,321	66,169
Card Catalogue (Branches):		
Titles (Printing Department count) . . . . .	568	760
Cards finished (exclusive of extras) . . . . .	37,761	33,583
Signs . . . . .	1,825	735
Blank forms (numbered series) . . . . .	3,613,725	3,402,038
Forms, circulars and sundries (outside numbered series) . . . . .	45,531	69,370
Catalogues, pamphlets, and bibliographical programs . . . . .	67,520	55,490

## THE LECTURES OF 1926-1927.

All lectures, except those marked with an asterisk (\*) were illustrated with lantern slides.

1926

- Sept. 27. The Stepping-Stones to the Art of Typography. Dr. Henry Guppy. Under the auspices of the Library and the Boston Society of Printers.
- Oct. 7. Vacationing in the North Woods. Edwin C. Howard.
- Oct. 10. \*The Influence of the Dance on Composers of Varied Types and Countries. Margaret Anderton.
- Oct. 11. \*Endowed with Divine Vision. Lilian Whiting. A Group of Songs. Mrs. Alice Wentworth MacGregor. (Ruskin Club.)
- Oct. 14. California the Beautiful and the Wonders of the Great Southwest. Henry Warren Poor, A.M. (Field and Forest Club Course.)
- Oct. 17. \*Dreams: Today's Mirage, Tomorrow's Reality. Nellie C. Haynes.
- Oct. 17. \*Concert by the Pro Arte Quartet. (Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge Series.)

- Oct. 18. \*The Fellowship of Faiths. Dr. Sarve-Palli Radhakrishnan. Singing by Mrs. Alice Wentworth MacGregor. Under the auspices of the League of Neighbors.
- Oct. 21. A West Indian Winter. Francis Henry Wade, M.D.
- Oct. 25. \*The Art of Living. Carr Schrader. (Ruskin Club.)
- Oct. 24. \*Concert by the Myrtle Jordan Trio.
- Oct. 28. East of Suez. Walter Wentworth Allerton.
- Oct. 31. El Kahireh, King Fuad's Capital. John C. Bowker, M.D.
- Nov. 4. The Beginnings of the Records: Egypt and Mesopotamia, from 3500-500 B. C. Agnes M. Winter.
- Nov. 6. \*Pindar and the Greek Lyric Poets. Charles Hammond Gibson, President. (American Poetry Association.)
- Nov. 7. \*Eugene G. O'Neil, and John Kelly: Contrasting American Dramatists. Sherwin Lawrence Cook.
- Nov. 8. \*Things That Make Men Happy. Rev. Joseph P. MacCarthy, Ph.D. (Ruskin Club.)
- Nov. 11. \*What Public Libraries will do for China. Mary Elizabeth Wood.
- Nov. 11. Through Europe with the Field and Forest Club. Rev. Charles W. Casson. (Field and Forest Club Course.)
- Nov. 14. A Pageant of Famous Actors, illustrated from the Shaw Theatre Museum of Harvard. Frank W. C. Hersey, A.M. (Drama League Course.)
- Nov. 18. The Smithsonian Institution. Charles G. Abbott, D.Sc.
- Nov. 21. \*Songs of the Sunny South. Edna Holmes.; A Miracle Play by Lady Gregory: The Travelling Man. Strolling Players, under the direction of Helene Martha Boll.
- Nov. 21. \*Concert by the Lenox Quartet. (Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge Series.)
- Nov. 22. A Session with the American Biblical School of Archaeology, at Jerusalem. Harriett Johnson, A.B. (Ruskin Club.)
- Nov. 28. \*Wozzeck, a Symphonic Opera: The Long Sought Synthesis between Drama and Symphony. Alfred H. Meyer.
- Nov. 29. The Primitive Mind and the Civilized. Herbert Joseph Spinden, Ph.D. (Boston Branch of the American Folklore Society.)
- Dec. 2. The Medieval Glory of France. Frederick Parsons, F.R.S.A.
- Dec. 4. \*American Verse before 1700. Wilmon Brewer, Ph.D. (American Poetry Association.)
- Dec. 5. Dr. Johnson and his Circle. William Webster Ellsworth.
- Dec. 9. Glimpses of the Pyrenees, the French Riviera, Switzerland, and the Dolomites. Mrs. Harriette Grigor. (Field and Forest Club Course.)



- Dec. 12. The Shakespeare Authorship. Willard Parker.  
 Dec. 13. Alaska, the Land of Far Delight. Mrs. Charles B. Hall.  
 (Ruskin Club.)  
 Dec. 16. The Beauties of Switzerland. Mrs. Arthur Dudley Ropes.  
 Dec. 19. \*Reading of the Christmas Carol. Gertrude L. McQuesten.  
 (Boston Branch of the Dickens Fellowship.)  
 Dec. 19. \*Concert by the Flonzaley Quartet. (Elizabeth Sprague  
 Coolidge Series.)  
 Dec. 23. The Homeland of the Master. Dr. Austen T. Kempton.  
 Dec. 26. Modern Art. Dorothy Adlow, A.M.  
 Dec. 27. \*Music. John Orth. Ruskin's Christmas Message. (Fors  
 Clavigera.) Mrs. Minnie Meserve Soule. (Ruskin  
 Club.)  
 Dec. 30. Botticelli Seen Through Oriental Eyes. Martha A. S.  
 Shannon.

## 1927

- Jan. 2. \*Popular Songs of Shakespeare's Day. Emma Marshall  
 Denkinger, Ph.D., assisted by Esther Morton Wood,  
 Soprano.  
 Jan. 6. The Art of the Netherlands. Adriaan Martin de Groot.  
 Jan. 8. \*Noyes, Masfield, Drinkwater, and other contemporary  
 British Poets. Dr. Benjamin Woodbury. (Vice Presi-  
 dent of the American Poetry Association.)  
 Jan. 9. The Art of the Stage; the Old versus the New Theatre.  
 Frank Chouteau Brown. (Drama League Course.)  
 Jan. 10. Ruskin and Today; the Balanced Life and Education.  
 Arthur W. Gilbert, Ph.D. (Ruskin Club.)  
 Jan. 13. A Tenderfoot on Rocky Mountain Trails: from Banff to  
 Mt. Robson on Horseback. George H. Browne, A.M.  
 (Field and Forest Club Course.)  
 Jan. 16. \*The Poetry of Amy Lowell. Frederic J. W. Hayford.  
 (American Poetry Association.)  
 Jan. 16. \*Concert by the Letz Quartet. (Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge  
 Series.)  
 Jan. 19. The Life and Art of Edgar Allen Poe. Joseph Lorraine.  
 Jan. 20. The Balkans. Eleanor B. Huse.  
 Jan. 23. \*Concert by the Lincoln House Orchestra. Jacques Hoff-  
 man, Conductor.  
 Jan. 24. \*Ruskin the Mystic. Rev. Adelbert Lathrop Hudson, A.M.,  
 S.T.B. (Ruskin Club.)  
 Jan. 27. \*The English Folk Dance. Mrs. Richard Conant.  
 Jan. 30. \*Music for the Pianoforte by American Composers. Eliza-  
 beth Siedoff.  
 Feb. 3. Zion National Park, Cedar Breaks and the North Rim of  
 the Grand Canyon National Park. Randall L. Jones.

- Feb. 6. \*The Music Dramas of Richard Wagner: their Literature, Music and Mysticism. Madame Beale Morey.
- Feb. 10. Scenes, Personal and Impersonal, about Mount Washington. Milton E. MacGregor. (Field and Forest Club Course.)
- Feb. 13. The Leading Producers of the Theatres in Europe: Talks with Meierhold, Stanislavsky, Smilgris, Muncis, Reinhardt, Jessner, Antoine and Gemier. Albert Hatton Gilmer, A.M. (Drama League Course.)
- Feb. 13. \*Concert by the South Mountain Quartet. (Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge Series.)
- Feb. 14. \*John Ruskin: The Value of his Progressive Thinking Today. Nathan C. Starr. (Ruskin Club.)
- Feb. 17. Picturesque England from Chester to Clovelly. Ellen E. Page.
- Feb. 20. \*The Return to Normalcy in Poetry. Robert E. Rogers, A.M. (American Poetry Association.)
- Feb. 24. Italian Cities and Hill Towns. Mrs. James Frederick Hopkins.
- Feb. 27. \*Beethoven's Missa Solennis: a Lecture with Musical Illustrations. Prof. Leo Rich Lewis.
- Feb. 28. \*The Personal Influence of John Ruskin. William Homer Leavitt. (Ruskin Club.)
- Mar. 3. The Art of Seeing: Drawing as a Language. Elizabeth Ward Perkins.
- Mar. 6. Cape Cod: Past, Present, Future. Edwin A. Freeman.
- Mar. 10. Through the White Mountains with the Field and Forest Club. Rev. Charles W. Casson. (Field and Forest Club Course.)
- Mar. 13. \*Comedy in American Drama. Prof. Robert E. Rogers, A.M. (Drama League Course.)
- Mar. 13. \*Concert by the Curtis Quartet. (Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge Series.)
- Mar. 14. Sesame and Lilies — Today. Mrs. Louise Austin Chrimes. (Ruskin Club.)
- Mar. 17. \*Four One-Act Plays. The Strolling Players, under the direction of Helene Martha Boll.
- Mar. 20. \*Concert by the Lincoln House Orchestra. Jacques Hoffman, Conductor.
- Mar. 20. \*Concert by the Burgin Quartet.
- Mar. 24. \*Dramatic Recital of Oedipus the King, by Sophocles. Dr. Clement B. Shaw. Incidental music composed by John K. Paine.
- Mar. 26. \*Beethoven Concert for Young People. Persis Cox, pianist.

- Mar. 27. \*Concert by the Boston Civic Symphony Orchestra. Joseph F. Wagner, Conductor.
- Mar. 27. \*Beethoven Concert by the Myrtle Jordan Trio.
- Mar. 28. From London to Land's End. Mrs. Arthur Dudley Ropes. (Ruskin Club.)
- Mar. 31. Local Color: Autochrome illustrations. Helen Messinger Murdock, F.R.P.S.
- Apr. 3. \*Ways and Methods of Modern Music. Nicolas Slonimsky.
- Apr. 3. \*Concert by Helene Diedrichs, pianist.
- Apr. 7. Fifty Books of 1926. David T. Pottinger.
- Apr. 10. \*Concert by the London String Quartet. (Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge Series.)
- Apr. 11. John Ruskin and the Old Masters. Ellen E. Page. (Ruskin Club.)
- Apr. 17. Dickens, Pickwick, and the Play. Cosmo Hamilton. (Auspices of Boston Branch of the Dickens Fellowship).
- Apr. 23. Art and Labor. Gerrit A. Beneker. (Workers Education Bureau.)
- Apr. 25. \*The Public Library, a Factor in Education. Charles F. D. Belden, A.M., LL.B. (Ruskin Club.)
- Apr. 28. \*Longevity and the Science of Living. Dr. Charlotte deG. Davenport.
- May 18. \*Appreciation of Music. John P. Marshall. (Boston Civic Music Festival.)
- May 19. Armenian Literature and Art. A. Chobanian.
- May 27. \*Fourth Intersettlement Concert by pupils from the Music School Settlements and Music Departments of Settlements in Greater Boston.
- May 31. \*The Civic Theatre Movement. Eva Le Gallienne. (Auspices of Dramatic Department of the Community Service of Boston.)

## PUBLIC EXHIBITIONS, 1926.

Installation  
date

- Jan. 9. Old Maps, from the collection in the Library.
- Feb. 2. Books relating to old valentines (Barton-Ticknor Room.)
7. Originals and color reproductions of paintings by R. Farrington Elwell, loaned by the artist.
18. One original leaf and a facsimile edition of the Gutenberg Bible.
20. Original designs entered in the "House Beautiful" Cover Design Competition.

- Mar.** 6. Large photographs of mountain scenery.  
 10. Books from the library of John Adams to commemorate the 100th anniversary of his death.  
 16. Material commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Evacuation of Boston, including the Washington Medal.  
 27. Events of Holy Week and Eastertide as depicted by old and modern masters.  
 Noteworthy editions of the works of Montaigne. (Barton-Ticknor Room.)
- Apr.** 10. Rare editions of the works of Francis Bacon. (Barton-Ticknor Room.)  
 Premiated poster designs, loaned by the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, in observance of "Be Kind to Animals Week."  
 20. Prints illustrating the work of the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood. (By request).
- May** 4. Bromoils by Leonard Craske, loaned by the artist.  
 22. Photographs of public monuments in connection with the proposed monument in Copley Square.
- July** 15. Library exhibit, marking the 50th anniversary of the American Library Association—rare books from the Library, Branch system methods, special editions of children's books, publicity material from the Massachusetts Library Commission, types of material other than books available in the Divisions of Fine Arts and Technology.
- Nov.** 6. Original designs in *New Ornament* by Max Hagendorn, loaned by the artist.  
 22. Examples of historic design from books on ornament in the Division of Fine Arts.  
 Notable editions of Cervantes and Lope de Vega from the Ticknor Collection.  
 Examples of fine binding from the Special Collections, including the recently acquired Armenian Manuscript bound in silver. (Barton-Ticknor Room.)
- Dec.** 6. "Possibilities of Kodak Photography." Prints and enlargements loaned by William E. Merrill.  
 27. "Creative Illustration." Drawings by children in the Boston Public Schools.

#### A SELECTED LIST OF GIFTS AND GIVERS.

**Abbey, Mrs. Edwin Austin, New York City.** Edwin Austin Abbey, Royal Academician. The record of his life and work by E. V. Lucas. 1852-1911. 2 v. London, 1921.

- Amherst College, Trustees of. Religion in the philosophy of William James. By Julius Seely Bixler. The Amherst Books. First Series. Boston. 1926.
- Association for the Publication of the Ku Chou Pien, Viscount T. Watanabe, President, Tokyo, Japan. (Through the Japanese Embassy at Washington.) A complete set of the Ku Chou Pien and Supplement in 68 volumes.
- Boston Browning Society. Seven volumes for the Browning Collection, including A Concordance to the poems of Robert Browning, by Leslie N. Broughton and Benjamin F. Stelter, in two volumes. New York, 1924, 1925. Autographed by Leslie N. Broughton.
- Boston Finance Commission. 415 volumes of Boston City documents and reports.
- Bradford, Gamaliel, Wellesley Hills. Darwin, by Gamaliel Bradford, Boston. 1926.
- Breitkopf & Härtel, New York City. Concert-Programm-Austausch. May, 1899-1901. 36 parts.
- Clark, William Andrews, Jr., Los Angeles. The deserted village. A poem by Oliver Goldsmith. With an introduction by William Andrews Clark, Jr., No. 55 of an edition of 200 copies printed for private distribution. 1926.
- The deserted village. A poem by Dr. Goldsmith. Printed for W. Griffin at Garrick's Head, London, 1770. One of 200 copies printed in facsimile.
- An elegy written in a country church-yard, by Thomas Gray. Text of 1768 edition with an introduction by James Southall Wilson. A forword by William Andrews Clark, Jr., One of 200 copies. San Francisco, 1925.
- An elegy wrote in a country church yard. London. 1751. A facsimile of the first edition, with the variants of the first eleven editions noted. One of 200 copies.
- Daughters of the American Revolution, The Old South Chapter. Subscription for the D.A.R. Magazine for 1926.
- Davis, Aaron, Nahant. Twenty-two volumes of miscellaneous works, including publications of the American Ambulance in the World War, and A treatise on benignity, written by Father Francis Arias, S.J., in his second parte of the Imitation of Christ our Lord. Translated into English in 1610, from the original of 1541.
- Drew, Mrs. Frank L. A framed colored print of the Frigate Constitution for the Children's Room in the West Roxbury Branch Library.
- Fearing, Mrs. Harriet. Seventeen volumes, including The life and letters of Walter H. Page, by B. J. Hendrick, 3 v., New York, 1926.
- Foote, Arthur, Newton Centre. Fifty original charades, by George Henschel. Autographed by the author. (For the Allen A. Brown Music Library.)

Gaugengigl, Ignaz M. Eighty-two photographs of portraits from paintings by Ignaz M. Gaugengigl.

Geer, Walter, Long Island City, New York. The Geer genealogy. A historical record of George and Thomas Geer and their descendants in the United States, from 1623 to 1923, by Walter Geer. New York. 1923.

Great Britain. Commissioner of Patents. Specifications of inventions. 178 volumes.

Green, Gladys. A series (first) of sacred songs by Thomas Moore, Esq., the music composed and selected by Sir John Stevenson and Mr. Moore. London (18—). (The Library had the second series only of this work.)

A selection of Irish melodies with accompaniments by Sir John Stevenson and characteristic words by Thomas Moore, Esq. London (18—).

Rossini, La donna del lago. In due atti. (184—). Church music for public worship. By Ch. Zeuner, organist to the Handel and Haydn Society. Boston. 1831.

Guiteras, Miss Gertrude E., Bristol, R. I. Guiteras, Wardwell and allied families. Prepared and privately printed for Gertrude Elizabeth Guiteras, by the American Historical Society. New York, 1926. In full morocco, inlaid with coat of arms and borders in gold and colors. Large folio.

Hale, Philip. Twenty-six volumes, including a collection of musical and dramatic works: *Der neue Göttingische . . . Ephorus*, Hamburg. 1727; *Der musikalische Patriot*, by Mattheson, 1728; *Johann Mattheson's kleine general Bass-Schule*, 1735, and ten volumes of mounted newspaper clippings, dramatic and musical criticisms by Philip Hale and others; also a copy of *Saints' Days (Giorni Santi)* for orchestra, by Timothy Mather Spelman. 1926. For Allen A. Brown Music Library.

Hardon, Henry W. (for the donors), New York City. Bures of Suffolk, England and Burr of Massachusetts Bay Colony, New England. By Chauncey Rea Burr. New York. 1926.

Harper, Henry Howard. High-lights of foreign travel. A memorable journey to Palestine, Egypt, Italy and the battle front in France. By Henry Howard Harper. Privately printed. New York. 1925.

Haskell, Mrs. Florence E., Alton, Illinois. Haskell, Hayner and allied families. Genealogical and biographical. Prepared and privately printed for Florence E. Haskell by the American Historical Society, Inc., 1926. In full morocco, inlaid with coat of arms in color.

Homans, Miss Marian. 165 volumes, including 151 bound volumes of *Littell's Living Age* and 75 numbers of *The Theatre*.

Hubbard, H. A collection of music for orchestra, violin and viola studies, also 95 pieces of sheet music.

- John Rylands Library, Manchester, England. Eleven volumes, including the Catalogue of an exhibition of the earliest printed editions of the principal Greek and Latin Classics and of a few manuscripts. Manchester. 1926.
- Lillie, Mrs. John. Sixty-nine volumes of miscellaneous works.
- Minns, Miss Susan. Genealogical histories of Minns and allied families in the line of descent of Miss Susan Minns. Issued under the editorial supervision of Ruth Lawrence. Bound by Stikeman, in full morocco. with coat of arms in color. Large quarto.
- Morse, Constance. Music and music-makers, by Constance Morse. New York. 1926. Autographed copy.
- New England Railway Publishing Company, Boston. Complete files of the Pathfinder Guides published by the Company from 1849 to March 1926, a record of train service in New England for 77 years.
- Page, L. C. & Company. Thirty-four volumes of their current publications.
- Pitt, S. A., City Librarian, Glasgow, Scotland. Twenty publications of the Glasgow Corporation Public Libraries.
- Pius X Institute of Liturgical Music of the College of the Sacred Heart, New York City. Catholic Education Series, music text book. 7 v. By Justine Ward, Elizabeth W. Perkins and Malton Boyce.
- Prescott, Rev. George J. A book in the Singhalese language with English translation. Said to be a book for children, used to promulgate love of animals and promote vegetarianism. This curious and interesting work consists of twelve folio pages, hand illustrated in color and was given to Mr. Prescott's father when he was consul at Ceylon about 1861.
- Reed, Mrs. Jennie Eva, Estate of. (Through the Atlantic National Bank, Executor.) 115 volumes and 50 booklets and pamphlets, including works of Dumas, Washington Irving and J. Fenimore Cooper.
- Siam, H. M. the Queen-Aunt of H. M. the King of Siam. Through the Siamese Minister, Siamese Legation, Washington, D. C. "Jatthakatha" Pali text in Siamese characters, ten volumes, 1925. (Studies of the Buddhist Scriptures.)
- Siam, H. R. H. Krom Khun Suddha Siminardh. Through the Siamese Minister, Siamese Legation, Washington, D. C. "Milindapanha" Pali text in Siamese characters, in one volume, 1925.
- Staats, Charles L., Estate of. Chamber music by Beethoven, Weber, Winter, Kreutzer and others, orchestral music by Lombard, and Gaspard's Collections of 38 airs for two clarinets.
- Storrow, Mrs. James J. (Helen Osborne Storrow). A gift of 2,298 photographs which were collected by her father-in-law, James J. Storrow, who died in 1897. This constitutes one of the largest

gifts of photographs ever received by the Library and includes exterior and interior views of twenty English cathedrals and abbeys; chateaux and churches of France; Italian palaces, theatres, shrines and statues; views in Algiers, Tunis, France, Germany, Italy and Sicily, and reproductions (in Braun prints) of the works of the great masters of painting and sculpture in the chief cities of Europe.

**Ware, Mrs. Henry, Brookline.** Five framed pictures, a plaster bust of Apollo and a bas-relief of Venus, for the Branch libraries.

**West Roxbury Woman's Club.** Education Committee. The charm of the antique, by Robert and Elizabeth Shackleton: Historic dress in America, by Elisabeth McClellan, 1607 to 1870, 2 v., 1904, 1910: and a subscription to The International Studio for the year 1926 for West Roxbury Branch.

**Whiting, Miss Lilian.** Fifteen volumes of miscellaneous works, including Poems by Marie Corelli, and Letters of Louise Imogen Guiney, 2 v., New York, 1926.

**William L. Clements Library.** Randolph G. Adams, Librarian. Three volumes, including The Passports, printed by Benjamin Franklin at his Passy Press. One of 505 copies printed by Bruce Rogers at the Harvard University Press for The William L. Clements Library, November, 1925.

#### OFFICIALS OF THE LIBRARY.

Director,	Charles F. D. Belden.
Reference Librarian,	Frank H. Chase.
Executive Secretary,	Della Jean Deery.
Auditor,	Helen Schubarth.

**Bates Hall Centre Desk, Patent and Newspaper Department:** Pierce E Buckley, Chief.

Patent Division, William J. Ennis, Assistant in Charge.

Newspaper Division, Frederic Serex, Assistant in Charge.

**Bindery Department:** James W. Kenney, Chief.

**Branch Department:** Edith Guerrier, Supervisor of Branches.\*

Central Branch Issue Division, Alice V. Stevens, Assistant in Charge.

Branch Binding Division, Marian A. McCarthy, Assistant in Charge.

Shipping Division, Robert F. Dixon, Assistant in Charge.

**Catalogue Department:** Samuel A. Chevalier, Chief.

Card Division, T. Francis Brennan, Assistant in Charge.

Shelf Division, Michael McCarthy, Chief Classifier, in Charge.

**Children's Department:** Alice M. Jordan, Supervisor of Work with Children.

Children's Librarian, Central Library, Mary C. Toy.

**Editor:** Zoltán Haraszti.

**Engineer and Janitor Department:** William F. Quinn, Supt. of Buildings.

\* For Branch Librarians, see below.



Genealogy Division: Agnes C. Doyle, Assistant in Charge.

Information Office: John H. Reardon, Assistant in Charge.

Issue Department: Frank C. Blaisdell, Chief.

Ordering Department: Theodosia E. Macurdy, Chief.

Periodical Room: Francis J. Hannigan, Assistant in Charge.

Printing Department: Francis Watts Lee, Chief.

Registration Department: A. Frances Rogers, Chief.

Special Libraries Department: Winthrop H. Chenery, Chief.

Technology Division, George S. Maynard, Assistant in Charge.

Music Division, Richard G. Appel, Assistant in Charge.

*misc* Barton-Ticknor Division, Harriet Swift, Assistant in Charge.

Statistical Department: Horace L. Wheeler, Chief.

Stock Room: Timothy J. Mackin, Custodian.

Branch Librarians:

Allston, Katherine F. Muldoon.

Andrew Square, Elizabeth H. McShane.

Boylston Station, Edith R. Nickerson.

Brighton, Marian W. Brackett.

Charlestown, Katherine S. Rogan.

City Point, Alice L. Murphy.

Codman Square, Elizabeth P. Ross.

Dorchester, Marion C. Kingman.

East Boston, Laura M. Cross.

Faneuil, Gertrude L. Connell.

Fellowes Athenæum, Mary E. Ames.

Hyde Park, Grace L. Murray.

Jamaica Plain, Katie F. Albert.

Jeffries Point, Margaret A. Calnan.

Lower Mills, Isabel E. Wetherald.

Mattapan.

Memorial, Beatrice M. Flanagan.

Mount Bowdoin, Theodora B. Scoff.

Mount Pleasant, Margaret H. Reid.

Neponset, Ellen C. McShane.

North End, Mary F. Curley.

Orient Heights, Catherine F. Flannery.

Parker Hill, Mary M. Sullivan.

Roslindale, Annie M. Donovan.

Roxbury Crossing, Katrina M. Sather.

South Boston, M. Florence Cufflin.

South End, Margaret A. Sheridan.

Tyler Street, Lois Clark.

Upham's Corner, Beatrice C. Maguire.

West End, Fanny Goldstein.

West Roxbury, Carrie L. Morse.

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BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY.  
Occupied in 1895.

SEVENTY-SIXTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

TRUSTEES

OF THE

PUBLIC LIBRARY

OF THE

CITY OF BOSTON

1927

BOSTON  
PUBLISHED BY THE TRUSTEES  
1928

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON: PRINTING DEPARTMENT.  
9.18.28: 2500

*Gift  
Wm. L. Clements Library  
10-31-1929*

# TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY

## ON JANUARY 1, 1928.

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ARTHUR T. CONNOLLY, *President.*

Term expires April 30, 1932.

GUY W. CURRIER.

Term expires April 30, 1928.

LOUIS E. KIRSTEIN.

Term expires April 30, 1929.

CLIFTON H. DWINNELL.

Term expires April 30, 1930.

GORDON ABBOTT.

Term expires April 30, 1931.

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CHARLES F. D. BELDEN.

DIRECTOR.

## ORGANIZATION OF THE LIBRARY DEPARTMENT.

The Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, organized in 1852, are now incorporated under the provisions of Chapter 114 of the Acts of 1878, as amended. The Board for 1852 was a preliminary organization; that for 1853 made the first annual report. At first the Board consisted of one alderman and one common-councilman and five citizens at large, until 1867, when a revised ordinance made it to consist of one alderman, two common-councilmen and six citizens at large, two of whom retired, unless re-elected, each year, while the members from the City Council were elected yearly. In 1878 the organization of the Board was changed to include one alderman, one councilman, and five citizens at large, as before 1867; and in 1885, by the provisions of the amended city charter, the representation of the City Government upon the Board by an alderman and a councilman was abolished, leaving the Board as at present, consisting of five citizens at large, appointed by the Mayor, for five-year terms, the term of one member expiring each year. The following citizens at large have been members of the Board since its organization in 1852:

ABBOTT, GORDON, A.B., 1926—  
ABBOTT, SAMUEL APPLETON BROWNE, A.M., 1879—95.  
APPLETON, THOMAS GOLD, A.M., 1852—56.  
BENTON, JOSIAH HENRY, LL.D., 1894—1917.  
BIGELOW, JOHN PRESCOTT, A.M., 1852—68.  
BOWDITCH, HENRY INGERSOLL, M.D., 1865—67.  
BOWDITCH, HENRY PICKERING, M.D., 1894—1902.  
BOYLE, THOMAS FRANCIS, 1902—12.  
BRAMAN, JARVIS DWIGHT, 1869—72.  
BRETT, JOHN ANDREW, LL.B., 1912—16.  
CARR, SAMUEL, 1895—96, 1908—22.  
CHASE, GEORGE BIGELOW, A.M., 1876—85.  
CLARKE, JAMES FREEMAN, D.D., 1879—88.  
COAKLEY, DANIEL HENRY, 1917—19.  
CONNOLLY, ARTHUR THEODORE, 1916—  
CURRIER, GUY WILBUR, 1922—  
CURTIS, DANIEL SARGENT, A.M., 1873—75.  
DE NORMANDIE, JAMES, D.D., 1895—1908.  
DWIGHT, THOMAS, M.D., 1899—1908.  
DWINNELL, CLIFTON HOWARD, B.S., 1927—  
EVERETT, EDWARD, LL.D., 1852—64.  
FROTHINGHAM, RICHARD, LL.D., 1875—79.  
GASTON, WILLIAM ALEXANDER, LL.B., 1923—1927.  
GREEN, SAMUEL ABBOTT, M.D., 1868—78.  
GREENOUGH, WILLIAM WHITWELL, 1856—88.  
HAYNES, HENRY WILLIAMSON, A.M., 1880—94.  
HILLIARD, GEORGE STILLMAN, LL.D., 1872—75; 76—77.  
KENNEY, WILLIAM FRANCIS, A.M., 1908—1921.  
KIRSTEIN, LOUIS EDWARD, 1919—  
LEWIS, WESTON, 1868—79.  
LEWIS, WINSLOW, M.D., 1867.  
LINCOLN, SOLOMON, A.M., 1897—1907.

MANN, ALEXANDER, D.D., 1908–1923.  
 MORTON, ELLIS WESLEY, 1870–73.  
 MURRAY, MICHAEL JOSEPH, LL.B., 1921–26.  
 PIERCE, PHINEAS, 1888–94.  
 PRINCE, FREDERICK OCTAVIUS, A.M., 1888–99.  
 PUTNAM, GEORGE, D.D., 1868–77.  
 RICHARDS, WILLIAM REUBEN, A.M., 1889–95.  
 SHURTLEFF, NATHANIEL BRADSTREET, LL.D., 1852–68.  
 THOMAS, BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, LL.D., 1877–78.  
 TICKNOR, GEORGE, LL.D., 1852–66.  
 WALKER, FRANCIS AMASA, LL.D., 1896.  
 WHIPPLE, EDWIN PERCY, A.M., 1868–70.  
 WHITMORE, WILLIAM HENRY, A.M., 1885–88.  
 WINSOR, JUSTIN, LL.D., 1867–68.

The HON. EDWARD EVERETT was President of the Board from 1852 to 1864; GEORGE TICKNOR, in 1865; WILLIAM W. GREENOUGH, from 1866 to April, 1888; PROF. HENRY W. HAYNES, from May 7, 1888, to May 12, 1888; SAMUEL A. B. ABBOTT, May 12, 1888, to April 30, 1895; HON. F. O. PRINCE, October 8, 1895, to May 8, 1899; SOLOMON LINCOLN, May 12, 1899, to October 15, 1907; REV. JAMES DE NORMANDIE, January 31, 1908, to May 8, 1908; JOSIAH H. BENTON, May 8, 1908, to February 6, 1917; WILLIAM F. KENNEY, February 13, 1917, to May 7, 1920; REV. ALEXANDER MANN, May 7, 1920, to January 22, 1923; MSGR. ARTHUR T. CONNOLLY, April 13, 1923 to June 13, 1924; LOUIS E. KIRSTEIN, June 13, 1924 to June 19, 1925; HON. MICHAEL J. MURRAY, June 19, 1925 to July 2, 1926; GUY W. CURRIER, July 2, 1926 to May 2, 1927; MSGR. ARTHUR T. CONNOLLY since May 2, 1927.

### LIBRARIANS.

(From 1858 to 1877, the chief executive officer was called Superintendent; since 1923, Director.)

CAPEN, EDWARD, *Librarian*, May 13, 1852 – December 16, 1874.  
 JEWETT, CHARLES C., *Superintendent*, 1858 – January 9, 1868.  
 WINSOR, JUSTIN, LL.D., *Superintendent*, February 25, 1868 – September 30, 1877.  
 GREEN, SAMUEL A., M.D., *Trustee, Acting Librarian*, October 1, 1877 – September 30, 1878.  
 CHAMBERLAIN, MELLEN, LL.D., *Librarian*, October 1, 1878 – September 30, 1890.  
 DWIGHT, THEODORE F., *Librarian*, April 13, 1892 – April 30, 1894.  
 PUTNAM, HERBERT, LL.D., *Librarian*, February 11, 1895 – April 30, 1899.  
 WHITNEY, JAMES L., A.M., *Acting Librarian*, March 31, 1899 – December 21, 1899; *Librarian*, December 22, 1899 – January 31, 1903.  
 WADLIN, HORACE G., LL.D., *Librarian*, February 1, 1903 – March 15, 1917; *Acting Librarian*, March 15, 1917 – June 15, 1917.  
 BELDEN, CHARLES F. D., A.M., LL.B., *Director*, since March 15, 1917.

# LIBRARY SYSTEM, JANUARY 1, 1926.

DEPARTMENTS.	OPENED.
†Central Library, Copley Square . . . . .	May 2, 1854
†East Boston Branch, 276-282 Meridian St. . . . .	Jan. 28, 1871
§South Boston Branch, 372 Broadway . . . . .	May 1, 1872
Fellowes Athenæum Branch, 46 Millmont St. . . . .	July 16, 1873
†Charlestown Branch, 43 Monument Square . . . . .	Jan. 5, 1874
†Brighton Branch, Academy Hill Road . . . . .	Jan. 5, 1874
‡Dorchester Branch, Arcadia, cor. Adams St. . . . .	Jan. 25, 1875
‡Lower Mills Branch, Washington, cor. Richmond St. . . . .	*June 7, 1875
‡South End Branch, 65 West Brookline St. . . . .	Aug., 1877
†Jamaica Plain Branch, Sedgwick, cor. South St. . . . .	Sept., 1877
‡Roslindale Branch, 4210 Washington St. . . . .	*Dec. 3, 1878
†West Roxbury Branch, 1961 Centre St. . . . .	*Jan. 6, 1880
§Mattapan Branch, 7 Babson St. . . . .	*Dec. 27, 1881
†North End Branch, 3a North Bennet St. . . . .	*Oct., 1882
§Neponset Branch, 362 Neponset Ave. . . . .	*Jan. 1, 1883
§Mt. Bowdoin Branch, 202 Washington St. . . . .	*Nov. 1, 1886
§Allston Branch, 138 Brighton Ave. . . . .	*Mar. 11, 1889
‡Codman Square Branch, Washington, cor. Norfolk St. . . . .	*Nov. 12, 1890
‡Mt. Pleasant Branch, Vine, cor. Dudley St. . . . .	*Apr. 29, 1892
‡Tyler Street Branch, Tyler, cor. Oak St. . . . .	*Jan. 16, 1896
†West End Branch, 131 Cambridge St. . . . .	Feb. 1, 1896
‡Upham's Corner Branch, 500 Columbia Rd. . . . .	*Mar. 16, 1896
‡Memorial Branch, cor. Warren and Townsend Sts. . . . .	*May 1, 1896
§Roxbury Crossing Branch, 208 Ruggles St. . . . .	*Jan. 18, 1897
§Boylston Station Branch, The Lamartine, Depot Square . . . . .	*Nov. 1, 1897
§Orient Heights Branch, 1030 Bennington St. . . . .	*June 25, 1901
‡City Point Branch, Municipal Bldg., Broadway . . . . .	*July 18, 1906
§Parker Hill Branch, 1518 Tremont St. . . . .	*July 15, 1907
†Hyde Park Branch, Harvard Ave., cor. Winthrop St. . . . .	Jan. 1, 1912
†Faneuil Branch, 100 Brooks St. . . . .	*Mar. 4, 1914
§Andrew Square Branch, 396 Dorchester St. . . . .	*Mar. 5, 1914
§Jeffries Point Branch, 195 Webster St. . . . .	*Oct. 15, 1921
‡Baker Library, Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration. . . . .	Jan. 15, 1927

|| In the case of the Central Library and some of the branches the opening was in a different location from that now occupied. \* As a delivery station. † In building owned by City, and exclusively devoted to library uses. ‡ In City building, in part devoted to other municipal uses. § Occupies rented rooms. || The lessee of the Fellowes Athenæum, a private library association. ‡ Under agreement with Harvard.

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## LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS.

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Present Library Building . . . . .	Frontispiece
Boylston Street Building . . . . .	Facing page 22
Mason Street Building . . . . .	Facing page 54
Map of the Library System . . . . .	At the end





TO HIS HONOR MALCOLM E. NICHOLS,  
*Mayor of the City of Boston.*

The Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston present the following report of its condition and affairs for the year ending December 31, 1927, being the seventy-sixth annual report.

#### ORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD.

Col. William A. Gaston died on July 17, and on September 2, Mr. Clifton H. Dwinnell was appointed in his place for the term ending April 30, 1930. At the annual meeting on May 2, Msgr. A. T. Connolly was elected President, Mr. Louis E. Kirstein, Vice President, and Miss Della Jean Deery, Clerk.

#### IMMEDIATE NEEDS.

The members of the Board of Trustees are deeply appreciative of the consideration given to their request for an appropriation by which it has been made possible to safeguard more adequately the important treasures of the Library. Urgent as was the need for these precautionary measures, it is desirable at this time to call to your attention certain other matters having to do with the rehabilitation of the Central Library Building in Copley Square.

Further protection from fire hazard should be secured by enclosing, where practicable, the various stairways in the stacks and the book carrier shaft, and by providing fireproof partitions, with fire doors, to the stock room and storage room in the basement.

Among the necessary major repairs that should be undertaken as soon as the money can be secured are: the reconstruction of the vaulting under the Dartmouth Street granite platform in front of the Library, and the relaying of the platform; the renovation of Bates Hall and the Delivery Room, including cleaning, paint-

ing, and the refinishing of the woodwork and wall cases; the repair and replacement of worn floors in various parts of the building.

In order to improve still further the ventilation of the building, the present roof exhaust fan should be replaced by a modern fan of larger capacity with its appropriate motor: the Guastavino tile vaulting in various parts of the building should be repaired where necessary; the roof of the Annex on Blagden Street, including skylights, flashings and ventilators should also be renovated.

The requirements of the Central Building, pressing as they are, should not be allowed to obscure the crying need of a number of the Branch Libraries for better and larger accommodations. The Branches are the channels through which nine-tenths of the circulation of the Library is carried on; they must not be allowed to become clogged. In many cases the service of juvenile readers and students interferes seriously with the use of the Branch Libraries by adults; ample room must be provided for the efficient service of all ages, if the balance of the Library's work for the community is to be properly maintained.

In some cases this cramped condition can be eliminated only by the erection of new buildings especially designed for library purposes; in others additional space or better quarters may be rented. The Libraries at Allston, Andrew Square, Jeffries Point, Mattapan, Mt. Bowdoin, Parker Hill and South Boston are in pressing need of new or greatly enlarged accommodations. In all of these Branches a rapid expansion of the Library's work is possible if adequate quarters are provided; the present year's circulation of 95,000 volumes at Mattapan shows an increase of 375% in the past five years.

No less important than the needs of the established Branches are the urgent demands of certain sections of the city, now remote from any library, for a fair share in Public Library service. The Trustees have caused a careful survey of the entire city to be made with a view to determining the relative claims of various districts to new branches or improved facilities. As soon as the existing library system has been put on an efficient basis, the task

of providing new branches in certain localities should be undertaken without delay.

#### RECEIPTS OF THE LIBRARY.

The receipts which may be expended by the Trustees for the maintenance of the Library consist of the annual appropriation by the Mayor and City Council, and the income from Trust Funds given to the institution and invested by the City Treasurer. During the past year these receipts were:

Annual appropriation	\$1,104,569.00
Special appropriation (Annex balance)	11,799.39
Library Building, Addition, etc	2,416.34
Income from Trust Funds	26,804.66
Unexpended balance of Trust Funds income of previous years	62,074.32
	<hr/>
	\$1,207,663.71

Receipts which are accounted for and paid into the City Treasury for general municipal purposes during the past year have been as follows:

From fines	\$18,529.10
From sales of catalogues, etc.	100.61
From commission on telephone stations	696.34
From payments for lost books	1,154.14
Interest on bank deposits	45.32
Refund on contract	2.00
	<hr/>
Total	\$20,527.51

#### ESTIMATES FOR 1928.

The estimates for the maintenance of the Library for the year ending December 31, 1928 in segregated budget form are as follows:

A — Personal service	\$773,644.00
B — Service other than personal	220,522.00
C — Equipment	178,290.00
D — Supplies	39,680.00
F — Special items	864.00
E — Materials	28,900.00
	<hr/>
Total	\$1,241,900.00

## ADDITIONS TO THE LIBRARY.

During the year there were added to the Central Library and branches 98,487 volumes as against 93,867 in 1926. Of these 85,766 were acquired by purchase and 12,721 by gift, exchange, etc. The total expenditure for books, periodicals, newspapers and other library material from City appropriation and Trust Funds income, was \$152,414.34. The total number of volumes in the Central Library and branches is 1,418,489.

## CIRCULATION.

The total number of books issued for home use during the year was 3,705,657, as against 3,499,137 for 1926, a gain of 206,520 volumes.

## GIFTS AND BEQUESTS.

The Trustees are glad to report the following gifts and bequests other than books and related material, during 1927:

In May, a bequest of \$1000 was received under the will of Helen Leah Reed as a memorial to Guilford S. Reed, and was funded as the "Guilford Reed Fund", the income to be applied to the purchase of books of non-fiction; in July a gift of \$25,000 was received from Helen Storrow and Elizabeth Randolph Storrow as a memorial to James Jackson Storrow, Senior, and was funded as the "James Jackson Storrow (Harvard '57) Fund", the income to be used for the purchase of Italian books; in October there was received a check for \$29.88 payment in final settlement of the residue of the estate of Sarah E. Pratt, to be added to the "Sarah R. Pratt Fund"; and in November, a gift of \$1000 from Mr. Louis E. Kirstein, to be added to the "Louis E. Kirstein Fund" established in 1925, being the third contribution to the fund.

Many important gifts of books and other library material have been received during the year. A detailed statement of these may be found in the Director's report.

## MORE MONEY FOR BOOKS.

There is no city in the United States in which the public library unites so completely as does that of the City of Boston the accumulation of a great mass of valuable reference material with the provision of popular books for circulation. The possession of its great reference collection, built up with intelligent care during seventy-five years, has made the Boston Public Library an institution of national importance; its treasures are a source of pride to the city and have been a potent factor in maintaining the position of Boston as a center of scholarship.

In the early days of its history the Library was the recipient of many unique collections of books and of funds, large for those days, which enabled it to take and hold a position of leadership among the public libraries of the country. At present, however, its total invested funds amount to \$755,000 and produce an income of less than \$27,000 yearly, which seems pitifully small compared with the \$22,647,000 endowment of the Reference Department of the New York Public Library. The funds which we have testify to the munificent public spirit of friends of the Library in the past; it is only through a similar munificence that the Library will be able to hold its place and to afford to scholars in Boston the assistance on which they have always counted.

The other branch of the Library's work, the circulation of books to the people, could also be carried forward more rapidly if the city's appropriation for books were increased. The Boston Public Library acquired last year a total of 98,487 volumes. In the same year the Cleveland Public Library acquired 201,174 volumes. The circulation of books in Boston showed a gain of 206,520 over the preceding year; in Cleveland the gain in circulation was 807,005. Could there be any clearer proof of the degree to which the acquisition of books promotes their circulation? If a library is to help and encourage people to read, it must provide the books which they desire. Old books may be invaluable for reference, but with a few exceptions they make little appeal to borrowers. The Board concurs heartily in the recommendation of the Examining Committee that the budget item for the purchase of books should be materially increased.

## THE GEORGE F. BAKER BRANCH LIBRARY.

The most important step taken in Library extension during the year was the agreement with the authorities of Harvard University for the consolidation of the great collections of material relating to business, contained in the George F. Baker Library of the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration and in the Public Library of the City of Boston; the terms of the agreement constitute the Baker Library a branch of the Boston Public Library.

Each of these collections consists roughly of two sections, one comprising live books on the practical aspects of business and the methods of carrying it on, the other made up of material relating to the past history of business, and consisting largely of reports of one sort or another. The live books belonging to the Public Library will be retained by it for the convenience of persons actively engaged in business who use the Copley Square building. To the research worker, however, completeness is of far more importance than convenience, and the consolidation of the historical material belonging to the two libraries will be for him a great boon. It happens that the two collections supplement each other admirably, the Public Library being strong in material from the earlier periods of American business, while the Baker Library has vast quantities of matter covering American business in the present century, together with a large number of items from foreign countries.

The orderly consolidation of all this material in Brighton for the free use of the public makes accessible to the people of Boston the best collection in this country for the study of business history. As in the similar arrangement with the Boston Medical Library, entered into in 1906, the books transferred will remain the property of the Public Library of the City of Boston, which may recall them at any time; they will be administered for the Boston Public Library by a staff of experts; and, in addition, the citizens of Boston are given the right to use an exhaustive accumulation of valuable material to which they would otherwise have no access.

An important feature of the agreement, which follows, pledges the co-operation of Harvard University in bringing to accomp-

lishment that long cherished dream of the Board of Trustees and the Director of the Library — the establishment of a business reference branch in downtown Boston.

**AGREEMENT by and between the TRUSTEES OF THE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY and the PRESIDENT AND FELLOWS OF HARVARD COLLEGE.**

Whereas, in order that the material of the Boston Public Library relating to business and business education and business administration and the material of the Harvard Business Library may be made available in such a way as to render the greatest practicable service to the community and to the cause of business education and research at a minimum cost, it is hereby agreed as follows:

1. The Trustees of the Boston Public Library shall constitute the Harvard Business Library, located in that part of Boston known as Brighton, a depository for books and other material as hereinafter provided, the Harvard Business Library becoming to this extent a branch of the Boston Public Library. The books and other material so deposited shall be combined with similar material of the Harvard Business Library and the two catalogued jointly.

2. The Harvard Business Library shall furnish the physical facilities and equipment as rapidly as possible to take over such books and material as shall be agreed upon, thus relieving the Boston Public Library of considerable expense for operation and releasing space in the Boston Public Library for other uses.

3. The Harvard Business Library will, as rapidly as its resources permit, prosecute the work of introducing the books and material into its shelves and cataloguing them. Such sum or sums as the Trustees of the Boston Public Library may at any time and from time to time before completion of this work contribute to its prosecution the Harvard Business School will devote to the purpose, and by so much will the work be expedited and the full use of the collection become available earlier.

4. The Boston Public Library will furnish the Harvard Business Library with a copy of the essential information in its existing catalogue relating to the transferred material.

5. The books and other material transferred to the library of the Harvard School of Business Administration by the Boston Public Library, with the other material belonging to the Business Library and any additions however made, shall be available for use by such persons as would be entitled to use the same if contained in the Central Building of the Boston Public Library, subject to any restrictions made in an instrument of gift of any such books or material and to reasonable restrictions to the use



of particular items of books or material which may be made by the authorities of the Harvard Business School Library. It is understood that the Library of the Harvard School of Business Administration will afford reasonable opportunity for such use in its library building, so far as such use is consistent with the ordinary and usual service for which the facilities of the library are adapted. In the discretion of its authorities, however, the Library of the Harvard School of Business Administration may restrict such use in its library building to the extent of its facilities for service; in case of such restriction the Boston Public Library may provide for such use in its Central Building, and may call for such books and material as are required from time to time by its card-holders for such use, in accordance with and subject to such reasonable regulations as may be from time to time agreed upon between the authorities of the two libraries.

6. Both libraries are to co-operate to as full an extent as is practicable in the inter-loan of books, to the end that the material of each shall be so used as to be of maximum benefit to the community.

7. The books and material intended to be covered by this agreement are those pertinent to the work of the Harvard Business Library which are not, in the opinion of the Librarian of the Boston Public Library, needed for current use of the Boston Public Library. The Librarian of the Boston Public Library may at any time recall from deposit specific material for which need has arisen.

8. All details as to the transferring of the books and material to the Harvard Business Library under this agreement shall be under the direction of the Librarians of the two Libraries. Books and material so transferred shall remain the property of the Boston Public Library. Lists of books and materials actually delivered shall be signed by the two Librarians or someone authorized to sign on their behalf.

9. It is expected that the arrangement for which provision is made in this agreement will be permanent. It is, however, understood that if it appears to either party to be undesirable it may be terminated upon conditions to be the subject of consideration at the time, but which, so far as possible, will work a minimum of damage to either party and which will leave both with as complete collections of books and material as is possible under the circumstances.

10. Each party shall bear the risk of loss by fire or other hazard or by theft; it being understood that the Harvard Business Library will give the same degree of care to the books and material of both parties.

11. The two institutions, that is to say, the Trustees of the Boston Public Library and the President and Fellows of Harvard College, stand ready to co-operate in the establishment, as a branch of the Boston Public Library, of a business reference library in the downtown section of Boston, to be established, operated and maintained by and in connection with the two Libraries. The expense of such a reference library would have to be

borne presumably by the business community, or at any rate by some person or persons other than the two Libraries.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties hereto have caused their official seals and signatures to be affixed by their duly authorized officers this fifteenth day of January 1927.

THE PRESIDENT AND FELLOWS OF HARVARD COLLEGE

By: A. LAWRENCE LOWELL (*signed*)

*President.*

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
OF THE CITY OF BOSTON.

By: GUY W. CURRIER (*signed*)

*President.*

Attest: CHARLES F. D. BELDEN (*signed*)

#### PROTECTION OF SOME OF THE LIBRARY'S TREASURES.

- The necessity of more adequately protecting the rare and valuable special collections of the Library having been considered by the Trustees for some time, the following communication was addressed to Your Honor on November 27, 1926:

#### THE PUBLIC LIBRARY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON

Copley Square, Boston, Mass.

November 27, 1926.

HON. MALCOLM E. NICHOLS,

Mayor of the City of Boston.

Sir:

The Trustees of the Public Library desire to bring again to your attention the urgent necessity for the relocation and more adequate protection of the treasures of the library, consisting of many volumes whose value cannot be estimated, and thousands which, if lost, could not be replaced.

Reports have been submitted relating to the necessary changes and reconstruction to be undertaken in the Central Library Building for the safe-keeping of such material as follows:

In March 1926, from John C. Paige & Co.; in April, from the office of the Building Commissioner, and in May, from O'Brien, Russell & Co.

The Paige report was referred to you on March 12, and by you forwarded to the Budget Commissioner for consideration. The additional reports were obtained and submitted at the latter's request.

The reports are practically unanimous in their findings and recommendations; namely:

Change the present Music Room into a Treasure Room with the necessary fire-proof construction and equipment, and reconstruct the present Barton-Ticknor Room and the North Gallery with fire-proof equipment.

These changes will allow the safe-guarding, against fire, of the valuable collections, and permit some additional shelving, the need for which is already pressing.

Contemplated changes also include the installation of the sprinkler system in the Bindery and Printing Departments in the annex, and of more importance, the completion of the system in the basement of the Central Building.

Careful estimates have been submitted as to the probable cost of the necessary and desired changes. It is expected that contracts can be let covering all the work, and including incidental expenses, for amounts not exceeding \$260,000 in the aggregate.

The Board commends this expenditure to you as the only plan for meeting a serious situation relating to the proper care of the treasures of the library, and earnestly urges upon you the importance of a special appropriation for this purpose.

Very truly yours

THE TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC  
LIBRARY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON.

By: GUY W. CURRIER (*signed*)  
*President.*

In response to this request, and on Your Honor's recommendation the City Council on December 12, 1927 passed the following order:

"ORDERED: that the sum of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars be and the same is hereby appropriated to be expended by the Trustees of the Public Library for the Central Library Building, Fireproofing, Improvements, etc., and that to meet said appropriation the City Treasurer be authorized to issue, from time to time, on the request of the Mayor, bonds or certificates of indebtedness of the city to said amount."

#### TRUST FUNDS.

The Trustees welcome bequests of money, and hope that generous testators may remember the Library. It is from such sources only that they can make purchases of rare works, which give value and rank to a great educational institution but for

which they hesitate to expend public funds appropriated for more popular and pressing use.

As a matter of interest to the public, the Board has pleasure in listing herewith the present trust funds of the Library, with explanatory notes.

**Artz Fund** — Donation from MISS VICTORINE THOMAS ARTZ, of Chicago; the income of this sum to be employed in the purchase of valuable, rare editions of the writings, either in verse or prose, of American and foreign authors. These books are to be known as the "Longfellow Memorial Collection." Received in 1896.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . \$10,000.00*

**Bates Fund** — Donation made by JOSHUA BATES, of London, in March, 1853.

"The income only of this fund is to be each and every year expended in the purchase of such books of permanent value and authority as may be found most needful and most useful." Payable to the Mayor of the City for the time being.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . \$50,000.00*

**Bigelow Fund** — Donation made by JOHN P. BIGELOW in August, 1850, when Mayor of the city.

The income from this fund is to be appropriated for the purchase of books for the increase of the library.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . \$1,000.00*

**Robert Charles Billings Fund** — Bequest of ROBERT CHARLES BILLINGS.

"The sum to constitute a permanent fund for said library, to be called the Robert Charles Billings Fund, the income only to be used for the purposes of the purchase of books for said library." Received in 1903.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . \$100,000.00*

**Bowditch Fund** — Bequest of J. INGERSOLL BOWDITCH. Received in 1890.

The whole income in each and every year to be expended in the purchase of books of permanent value and authority in mathematics and astronomy.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond . \$10,000.00*

**Bradlee Fund** — Bequest of the REV. CALEB DAVIS BRADLEE to the Boston Public Library. Received in 1897.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-half per cent Bond . \$1,000.00*

**Joseph H. Center Fund** — Bequest of JOSEPH H. CENTER, the income thereof to be at all times applied to the purchase of books and other

additions to the library. Received in 1905.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds</i>	\$1,600.00
City of Boston Three and one-half per cent Bonds	32,300.00
Commonwealth of Massachusetts Three and one-half per cent Bond	6,000.00
Cash in City Treasury, December 31, 1927.	8.89

**\$39,908.89**

**Children's Fund** — Bequest of JOSIAH H. BENTON of \$100,000, to be held as "The Children's Fund," and the income applied to the purchase of books for the use of the young, to be applied for those purposes only in years when the city appropriates for the maintenance of the Library at least three per cent of the amount available for department expenses from taxes and income in said city. In any year when the city does not thus appropriate at least three per cent of the amount available for department expenses from taxes and income in said City, the income given in said will for the purchase of books shall be paid to the Rector of Trinity Church in the City of Boston to be by him dispensed in relieving the necessities of the poor.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond</i>	\$15,000.00
City of Boston Four per cent Bond	42,000
City of Boston Three and one-half per cent Bond	20,000.00
Commonwealth of Massachusetts Three and one-half per cent Bond	20,000.00
Commonwealth of Massachusetts Four per cent Bond	6,000.00
Cash in City Treasury, December 31, 1927	117.74

**\$103,117.74**

**Clement Fund** — Bequest of the late FRANK CLEMENT, of Newton, to be known as the "Frank Clement Fund," the income to be applied to the purchase of books. Received in 1915.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond</i>	\$2,000.00
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**Henry Sargent Codman Memorial Fund** — This is a contribution from the friends of HENRY SARGENT CODMAN, to be used to perpetuate the memory of Mr. Codman by the purchase of books upon landscape gardening. It is the desire of the subscribers that a special book plate shall be inserted in each of the volumes purchased, identifying it as part of their memorial collection. Received in 1898.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Three and one-half per cent Bond</i>	\$2,800.00
Cash in City Treasury, December 31, 1927.	54.41

**\$2,854.41**

**Cutter Fund** — Bequest of **ABRAM E. CUTTER** of four thousand dollars and his library of books, the income of the fund to be expended for the purchase of books, and for binding. Received in 1901.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Three per cent Bond</i>	\$4,000.00
City of Boston Four and one-half per cent Bond	100.00
Cash in City Treasury, December 31, 1927.	40.00

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\$4,140.00

**Elizabeth Fund** — Bequest of **SARAH A. MATCHETT**, late of Brookline, who died October 6, 1910, the object of which is stated in the following extract from her will:

"I give and bequeath to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, twenty-five thousand dollars, to be called the Elizabeth fund, to be received, held and securely invested, and only the net income therefrom expended every year in the purchase of such books of permanent value and authority as may be most useful in said Library."

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond</i>	\$25,000.00
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**Daniel Sharp Ford Fund** — A bequest of **DANIEL SHARP FORD** to the Public Library of the City of Boston. Received in 1900.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Three per cent Bond</i>	\$6,000.00
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**Franklin Club Fund** — Donation made in June, 1863, by a literary association of young men in Boston, who, at the dissolution of the association, authorized its trustees, Thomas Minns, John J. French and J. Franklin Reed, to dispose of the funds on hand in such manner as to them should seem judicious. They elected to bestow them on the Public Library, attaching thereto only the following conditions: "In trust, that the income, but the income only, shall, year by year, be expended in the purchase of books of permanent value, for the use of the free Public Library of the city, and as far as practicable of such a character as to be of special interest to young men." The trustees expressed a preference for books relative to government and political economy.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter</i>	
per cent Bond	\$1,000.00

**Isabella Stewart Gardner Fund** — Bequest of **ISABELLA STEWART GARDNER**.

"To the Trustees of the Boston Public Library, for the Brown Musical Library, for a memorial to B. J. Lang." Received in 1924.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds</i>	\$5,000.00
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**Morris Gest Fund** — Donation made by **MR. MORRIS GEST** in December 1925, the gross receipts from a benefit performance for the Library

of "The Miracle", — \$2,652.50, the income to be used in the interest of dramatic art.

*Deposited in Hibernia Savings Bank* . . . . \$2,652.50

**Green Fund** — Donations of DR. SAMUEL A. GREEN of \$2,000, the income of which is to be expended for the purchase of books relating to American history. Received in 1878 and 1884.

*Invested in*

City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . . 1,500.00

City of Boston Three per cent Bond . . . . 500.00

\$2,000.00

**Charlotte Harris Fund** — Bequest of CHARLOTTE HARRIS, late of Boston, the object of which is stated in the following extract from her will: "I give to the Charlestown Public Library \$10,000, to be invested of interest, which interest is to be applied to the purchase of books published before 1850. I also give to said Public Library my own private library and the portrait of my grandfather, Richard Devens." Bequests accepted by City Council, July 31, 1877.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter*

*per cent Bond* . . . . \$10,000.00

**Thomas B. Harris Fund** — Bequest of THOMAS B. HARRIS, late of Charlestown, for the benefit of the Charlestown Public Library. Received in 1884.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond* . . \$1,000.00

**Hyde Fund** — Bequest of FRANKLIN P. HYDE of Boston, to be known as the "Franklin P. Hyde Fund," the income to be applied to the purchase of books and other library material. Received in 1915.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds* . . \$3,600.00

Cash, December 31, 1927. . . . 32.40

\$3,632.40

**David P. Kimball Fund** — Bequest of DAVID P. KIMBALL.

"I give to the Public Library of the City of Boston, the income to be used for the purchase of books, \$10,000." Received in 1924.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds* . . \$9,000.00

City of Boston Three and one-half per cent Bond . . 1,000

\$10,000.00

**Louis E. Kirstein Fund** — Donation of \$1,000 made by Mr. LOUIS E. KIRSTEIN in October 1925, "to be used for any purpose of the Library that the Trustees see fit to put it to."

October, 1925. . . . \$1,000.00

October, 1926. . . . 1,000.00

November, 1927. . . . 1,000.00

*Deposited in Hibernia Savings Bank* . . . . \$3,000.00

**Arthur Mason Knapp Fund** — Extract from the will of KATHERINE KNAPP: "To the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, the sum of ten thousand dollars (\$10.000), to be known as the Arthur Mason Knapp Fund, of which the income only shall be used for the purchase of books for said library. And I hereby request that such books be designated with an appropriate label or inscription, bearing the name of the Fund." Received in 1914.  
*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . \$10,000.00*

**Abbott Lawrence Fund** — Bequest of ABBOTT LAWRENCE, of Boston. Received in 1860. The interest on this fund is to be exclusively appropriated for the purchase of books for the said library having a permanent value.  
*Invested in City of Boston Three and one-half per cent Bond . . . . . \$10,000.00*

**Edward Lawrence Fund** — Bequest of EDWARD LAWRENCE, of Charlestown. Received in 1886. The following clause from his will explains its purpose:  
 "To hold and apply the income and so much of the principal as they may choose, to the purchase of special books of reference to be kept and used only at the Charlestown branch of said Public Library."  
*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . \$500.00*

**Mrs. John A. Lewis Fund** — Bequest of ELIZABETH LEWIS, to be known as the Mrs. John A. Lewis Fund: "I give and bequeath to the Boston Public Library the sum of \$5,000 as a fund, the income of which is to be used for the purchase of such old and rare books as shall be fitly selected to augment the collection known as the John A. Lewis Library." Received in 1903.  
*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . \$5,000.00*

**Charles Greely Loring Memorial Fund** — Donation from the family of CHARLES GREELY LORING, the income of which is to be expended for the purchase of books for the West End Branch. Received in 1896.  
*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . \$500.00*

**Charles Mead Fund** — Bequest of CHARLES MEAD, to constitute the Charles Mead Public Library Trust Fund for the promotion of the objects of the Public Library in such manner as the government of said library shall deem best, and so far as the government shall deem consistent with the objects of the library to be used for the benefit of the South Boston Branch Library. Received in 1896.  
*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-half per cent Bond . . . . . \$2,500.00*

**The Oakland Hall Trust Fund** — By an interlocutory decree of the Probate Court for the County of Suffolk, the amount of \$11,781.44



was received, the same being one-half of the net amount received from the disposition of certain property held by the Trustees, under an indenture between Amor Hollingsworth, Sumner A. Burt and Amor L. Hollingsworth, all of Milton, Mass., and John H. McKendry, of Boston, Mass., entered into the sixth day of August, 1870. The above amount was accepted by the City, January 2, 1924, and the Trustees of the Public Library voted to invest the same under the name of "The Oakland Hall Trust Fund," the income to be applied to the purchase of books and other library material for the Mattapan Branch.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds</i>	\$11,780.00
Cash, December 31, 1927.	1.44

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\$11,781.44

**John Boyle O'Reilly Fund** — Donation received from the PAPHYRUS CLUB to establish a fund in memory of John Boyle O'Reilly, late member of said club, the income of said fund to be devoted to the purchase of books for the Boston Public Library. Received in 1897.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond</i>	\$1,000.00
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**Phillips Fund** — Donation made by JONATHAN PHILLIPS, of Boston, in April, 1853.

The interest of this fund is to be used exclusively for the purchase of books for said library.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond</i>	\$10,000.00
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Also a bequest by the same gentleman in his will dated September 20, 1849.

The interest on which is to be annually devoted to the maintenance of a free Public Library.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Three and one-half per cent Bond</i>	\$20,000.00
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Both of these items are payable to the Mayor of the City for the time being.

**Pierce Fund** — Donation made by HENRY L. PIERCE, Mayor of the City, November 29, 1873, and accepted by the City Council, December 27, 1873.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds</i>	\$4,000.00
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City of Boston Three and one-half per cent Bond	1,000.00
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\$5,000.00

**Sarah E. Pratt Fund** — Bequest from SARAH E. PRATT, late of Boston, under the 14th clause of her will, for the benefit of the Dorchester Branch, \$500.00. Received in January, 1922.

Distribution of residue of estate on May 7, 1924, \$964.30.

By vote of the Trustees the bequest to be funded as the Sarah E.

Pratt Fund, the income to be applied to the purchase of books for the  
Dorchester Branch.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond</i>	1,400.00
City of Boston Three and three-quarters per cent Bond	90.00
Cash in City Treasury, December, 1927.	4.18

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\$1,494.18

Guilford Reed Fund — Bequest of Helen Leah Reed, as a memorial to  
Guilford S. Reed; the income to be applied to the purchase of books  
of non-fiction.

<i>Deposited in Dorchester Savings Bank</i>	\$1,000.00
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John Singer Sargent Fund — Balance remaining in hands of surviving  
trustees of fund originally raised to install in the Library decorations  
by John Singer Sargent; the income to be used for the care and  
preservation of the Sargent decorations, etc.

<i>Deposited in Dorchester Savings Bank</i>	\$3,858.24
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Scholfield Fund — Bequest of ARTHUR SCHOLFIELD, who died in New  
York, January 17, 1883. The interest to be paid to certain heirs  
during their lives, and then to be used for the purchase of books of  
permanent value. The last heir, Joseph Scholfield, died November  
18, 1889, and by his will bequeathed to the City of Boston the sum  
of \$11,766.67, which represents the income of said fund received  
by him up to the time of his death, to which was added \$33.33  
accrued interest on deposit up to the time of investment, to be added  
to the fund given by his brother.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds</i>	\$41,800.00
City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond	12,000.00
City of Boston Four and one-half per cent Bonds	6,000.00
City of Boston Three and three-quarters per cent Bonds	2,000.00

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\$61,800.00

Sewall Fund — Extract from the will of RICHARD BLACK SEWALL:  
"Tenth. — I bequeath the following pecuniary legacies clear of lega-  
cy tax, namely, To the Trustees of the Public Library of the City  
of Boston \$25,000 (twenty-five thousand dollars) to be added to  
their funds and the income to be used for the purchase of books."  
Received in 1918.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond</i>	\$25,000.00
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Skinner Fund — Extract from the will of FRANCIS SKINNER:

"Eleventh. — All my books and library I give and bequeath to my  
son, to be enjoyed by him during his life and after his death to be  
distributed as he shall appoint among such public libraries, as he shall  
judge fit, and in case he makes no such appointment then to the  
Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston.

**"Sixteenth.** — All the rest and residue of my said property of whatever kind, I give and bequeath to Augustus P. Loring and J. Lewis Stackpole in trust to pay the net income to my son Francis Skinner, Jr., during his life, or to apply the same to his maintenance and support, or the maintenance and support of any issue of his, as they shall think best during his life; and at his death to apply the income to the maintenance and support of his issue until his youngest child shall reach the age of 21 years and then to distribute said property among said issue, the issue of a deceased child to take the share a parent would have taken if living.

"If there shall be no issue surviving at the time of my son's death, then to turn the said property into cash and to divide it equally among the following legatees: The Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, the Museum of Fine Arts of Boston, Massachusetts, the Massachusetts General Hospital, the Medical School of Harvard University, and the Free Hospital for Women, Brookline, Massachusetts." Received in 1914.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Three and one-half per cent Bond</i>	\$40,000.00
City of Boston Four per cent Bonds	10,250.00
City of Boston Four and one-half per cent Bond	200.00
16 shares Worcester Street Railway Company	1,280.00
Cash, December 31, 1927.	2.14
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	\$51,732.14

South Boston Branch Library Trust Fund — Donation of a citizen of South Boston, the income of which is to be expended for the benefit of the South Boston Branch Library. Received in 1879.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond</i>	\$100.00
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Mary Elizabeth Stewart Fund — Bequest of MARY ELIZABETH STEWART of \$3,500 to the Trustees of the Boston Public Library. The Trustees voted under date of June 29, 1923, that the income be applied to the purchase of books and other library material.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond</i>	\$3,500.00
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James Jackson Storrow (Harvard '57) Fund — Gift of Helen Storrow and Elizabeth Randolph Storrow as a memorial to James Jackson Storrow, Senior; income to be used for the purchase of Italian books.

<i>Deposited in Boston Five Cent Savings Bank</i>	\$10,000.00
" " Dorchester Savings Bank	5,000.00
" " Suffolk Savings Bank	10,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$25,000.00

Patrick F. Sullivan Bequest — Extract from will: "I give and bequeath to the Trustees of the Boston Public Library the sum of five thous-

and dollars, the principal or income of said sum to be expended by them for the purchase of Catholic standard books, said books to be approved by the Archbishop of the diocese of Boston, Mass., or by the President of the Trustees of Boston College, in Boston, Mass." Received in 1908.

This bequest, together with interest amounting to \$339.61, has been expended for books.

**Ticknor Bequest** — By the will of GEORGE TICKNOR, of Boston, he gave to the City of Boston, on the death of his wife, all his books and manuscripts in the Spanish and Portuguese languages, about four thousand volumes, and also the sum of four thousand dollars. After the receipt of said sums the city is required to spend not less than one thousand dollars in every five years during the twenty-five years next succeeding (i.e., the income of four thousand dollars, at the rate of five per cent per annum) in the purchase of books in the Spanish and Portuguese languages and literature. At the end of twenty-five years the income of said sum to be expended annually in the purchase of books of permanent value, either in the Spanish or Portuguese languages, or in such other languages as may be deemed expedient by those having charge of the library. The books bequeathed or purchased are always to be freely accessible for reference or study, but are not to be loaned for use outside of the library building. If these bequests are not accepted by the city, and the trusts and conditions faithfully executed, the books, manuscripts and money are to be given to the President and Fellows of Harvard College. In order that the city might receive the immediate benefit of this contribution, Anna Ticknor, widow of the donor, relinquished her right to retain during her life the books and manuscripts, and placed them under the control of the city, the City Council having previously accepted the bequests in accordance with the terms and conditions of said will, and the Trustees of the Public Library received said bequests on behalf of the city, and made suitable arrangements for the care and custody of the books and manuscripts. Received in 1871.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-half per*

cent Bond . . . . .	\$4,000.00
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**William C. Todd Newspaper Fund** — Donation by WILLIAM C. TODD, accepted by order of the City Council, approved October 30, 1897, the income to be at least two thousand dollars a year, to be expended by the Library Trustees for newspapers of this and other countries.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond . . . . .</i>	\$25,000.00
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*City of Boston Three and three-quarters per*

cent Bond . . . . .	\$25,000.00
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<u>\$50,000.00</u>
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**Townsend Fund** — Donation from William Minot and William Minot, Jr., executors of the will of MARY P. TOWNSEND, of Boston, at whose disposal she left a certain portion of her estate in trust for such charitable and public institutions as they might think meritorious. Said executors accordingly selected the Public Library of the City of Boston as one of such institutions, and attached the following conditions to the legacy: "The income only shall, in each and every year, be expended in the purchase of books for the use of the library; each of which books shall have been published in some one edition at least five years at the time it may be so purchased." Received in 1879.

*Invested in City of Boston Three and one-half per cent Bond . . . . .* **\$4,000.00**

**Treadwell Fund** — By the will of the late DANIEL TREADWELL, of Cambridge, late Rumford Professor in Harvard College, who died February 27, 1872, he left the residue of his estate, after payment of debts, legacies, etc., in trust to his executors, to hold during the life of his wife for her benefit, and after her decease to divide the residue then remaining in the hands of the Trustees, as therein provided, and convey one-fifth part thereof to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston.

By order of the City Council, approved May 17, 1872, said bequest was accepted and the Trustees of the Public Library authorized to receive the same and invest it in the City of Boston Bonds, income of which is to be expended by said Trustees in such manner as they may deem for the best interests of the Library.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-half per cent Bond . . . . .* **\$1,000.00**  
*City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bonds* **3,100.00**  
*City of Boston Four per cent Bonds. . . . .* **9,850.00**  
*Cash in City Treasury, December 31, 1927. . . . .* **37.69**  
**\$13,987.69**

**Tufts Fund** — Bequest of NATHAN A. TUFTS, of Charlestown, to be known as the "Nathan A. Tufts Fund," the income to be applied at all times to the purchase of books and other additions to the library to be placed in the Charlestown Branch. Received in 1906.

*Invested in City of Boston Three and one-half per cent Bond . . . . .* **\$ 100.00**  
*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds . . . . .* **10,000.00**  
*Cash in City Treasury, December 31, 1927. . . . .* **31.77**  
**\$10,131.77**

**Twentieth Regiment Memorial Fund** — Donation on account of the **TWENTIETH REGIMENT MEMORIAL FUND**, the income to be used for the purchase of books of a military and patriotic character, to be placed in the alcove appropriated as a memorial to the Twentieth Regiment. Received in 1897.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond* . . . . . \$5,000.00

**Wales Fund** — Extract from the will of **GEORGE C. WALES**:

"After the foregoing bequests I direct that the sum of five thousand dollars be paid to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, the same to be held, managed and invested by them, so as to produce an income, and the said income to be applied to the purchase of such books for said Library as they may deem best." Received in 1918.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond* . . . . . \$5,000.00

**Mehitable C. C. Wilson Fund** — Bequest of **MEHITABLE C. C. WILSON**, the income to be expended for the purchase of books for the Boston Public Library. Received in 1913.

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds* . . . \$1,000.00

**Whitney Funds** — Bequests of **JAMES LYMAN WHITNEY**, who died September 25, 1910.

**Alice Lincoln Whitney Fund** — The twelfth clause of his will directed that: One-tenth of said remaining income of the principal fund, I direct to be paid to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, to be held and accumulated by said Trustees and permanently invested and re-invested. The first five thousand dollars of income so accumulated, including the income thereon arising during the period of accumulation, I request to be funded in the name of my sister, Alice Lincoln Whitney, and the income of said fund after its accumulation or so much of said income as may be required, to be paid to such employees of the said Library, who are sick and in need of help, as the Trustees may in their discretion deem most worthy (there are often such cases). Any amount of income from said accumulated fund not needed for the purpose just mentioned shall be used for the purchase of books and manuscripts.

*Invested in City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bond* . . . . . 1,000.00

*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bonds.* . . . 4,000.00

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\$5,000.00

**James Lyman Whitney Fund** — The Alice Lincoln Whitney Fund having been established, all amounts of income of the principal fund paid to said Trustees, after the accumulation of said fund of five

thousand dollars shall be held as the James Lyman Whitney Fund, and invested and re-invested and the income used in equal shares, one share for the purchase of rare and expensive books, and one share for the purchase and care of manuscripts; one half at least of the share devoted to manuscripts to be expended for their cataloguing and proper care.

<i>Invested in City of Boston Four and one-half per cent Bonds</i>	\$1,200.00
City of Boston Four and one-quarter per cent Bonds	2,000.00
City of Boston Four per cent Bonds	10,500.00
Cash in City Treasury, December 31, 1927.	40.64
	<hr/>
	\$13,740.64

In addition to the above Mr. Whitney created a trust, directing that of the net income seven hundred dollars a year be paid to the Trustees of the Public Library of the City of Boston, to be expended on bibliographic work for the benefit of the Library.

Central Library Building Fund — Donations in response to an appeal by the Trustees in April, 1925, setting forth the needs of the Library, from

Percy Lee Atherton	\$ 25.00
William York Peters	25.00
John T. Spaulding	100.00
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*Invested in City of Boston Four per cent Bond* . . . \$150.00

Donations — Besides the preceding, the following donations have been made to the Public Library, and the amounts have been appropriated for the purchase of books, according to the intention of the donors, viz.:

J. Ingersoll Bowditch	\$6,800.00
Samuel Appleton, late of Boston.	1,000.00
Sally Inman Kast Shepard	1,000.00
James Brown, late of Cambridge	500.00
Andrew Carnegie	980.75
Nathaniel I. Bowditch	200.00
James Nightingale	100.00
Dorchester and Milton Circulating Library, for the benefit of the Dorchester Branch Library	335.13
	<hr/>
	\$10,915.88

ANNALS OF LIBRARY, 1856-1893,







## RECAPITULATION OF PUBLIC LIBRARY TRUST FUNDS.

Artz Fund . . . . .	\$ 10,000.00
Bates Fund . . . . .	50,000.00
Bigelow Fund . . . . .	1,000.00
Robert Charles Billings Fund . . . . .	100,000.00
Bowditch Fund . . . . .	10,000.00
Bradlee Fund . . . . .	1,000.00
Joseph H. Center Fund . . . . .	39,908.89
Central Library Building Fund . . . . .	150.00
Children's Fund . . . . .	103,117.74
Clement Fund . . . . .	2,000.00
Henry Sargent Codman Memorial Fund . . . . .	2,854.41
Cutter Fund . . . . .	4,140.00
Elizabeth Fund . . . . .	25,000.00
Daniel Sharp Ford Fund . . . . .	6,000.00
Franklin Club Fund . . . . .	1,000.00
Isabella Stewart Gardner Fund . . . . .	5,000.00
Morris Gest Fund . . . . .	2,652.50
Green Fund . . . . .	2,000.00
Charlotte Harris Fund . . . . .	10,000.00
Thomas B. Harris Fund . . . . .	1,000.00
Hyde Fund . . . . .	3,632.40
David P. Kimball Fund . . . . .	10,000.00
Louis E. Kirstein Fund . . . . .	3,000.00
Arthur Mason Knapp Fund . . . . .	10,000.00
Abbott Lawrence Fund . . . . .	10,000.00
Edward Lawrence Fund . . . . .	500.00
Mrs. John A. Lewis Fund . . . . .	5,000.00
Charles Greely Loring Memorial Fund . . . . .	500.00
Charles Mead Fund . . . . .	2,500.00
The Oakland Hall Trust Fund . . . . .	11,781.44
John Boyle O'Reilly Fund . . . . .	1,000.00
Phillips Fund . . . . .	30,000.00
Pierce Fund . . . . .	5,000.00
Sarah E. Pratt Fund . . . . .	1,494.18
Guilford Reed Fund . . . . .	1,000.00
John Singer Sargent Fund . . . . .	3,858.24
Scholfield Fund . . . . .	61,800.00
Sewall Fund . . . . .	25,000.00
Skinner Fund . . . . .	51,732.14
South Boston Branch Library Trust Fund . . . . .	100.00
Mary Elizabeth Stewart Fund . . . . .	3,500.00
James Jackson Storrow (Harvard '57) Fund . . . . .	25,000.00
Ticknor Fund . . . . .	4,000.00
William C. Todd Newspaper Fund . . . . .	50,000.00
Townsend Fund . . . . .	4,000.00
Treadwell Fund . . . . .	13,987.69
Nathan A. Tufts Fund . . . . .	10,131.77
Twentieth Regiment Memorial Fund . . . . .	5,000.00
Wales Fund . . . . .	5,000.00
Alice Lincoln Whitney Fund . . . . .	5,000.00
James Lyman Whitney Fund . . . . .	13,740.64
Mehitable C. C. Wilson Fund . . . . .	1,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$755,082.00

## EXAMINING COMMITTEE.

The Trustees gratefully acknowledge the assistance rendered by the Examining Committee of the year. The recommendations of this Committee have received careful attention. The membership of the Committee consisted of the following persons:

Miss Anna M. Bancroft.	Mr. Francis L. Higginson.
Mr. Jeffrey R. Brackett.	Mr. David H. Howie.
Mr. Herman L. Bush.	Mr. Henry Lewis Johnson.
Mr. Frank W. Buxton.	Mr. Melville D. Liming.
Mr. Sidney S. Conrad.	Gen. Edward L. Logan.
Mr. Henry V. Cunningham.	Mr. Thomas W. McMahon.
Hon. James M. Curley.	Mr. Percival Merritt.
Mr. Frederic H. Curtiss.	Miss Jane L. Mesick.
Mr. William J. Davidson.	Mr. Samuel Silverman.
Prof. Arthur S. Dewing.	Mrs. Francis E. Slattery.
Mrs. David A. Ellis.	Prof. H. W. Tyler.
Mr. Albert W. Finlay.	Mrs. Barrett Wendell.

## CONCLUSION.

The members of the Board would call to your attention the illuminating reports of the Examining Committee and the Director which are, as customary, appended hereunto. They deserve to be read by all those interested in the work of a great educational and recreational institution of the City of Boston.

During the year the activities of the Library Department, ever growing in variety and magnitude, have moved smoothly and well. This result is owing to the loyal and faithful service of the Director, the Chiefs of Departments and other persons in the service of the Library. We are pleased to be able again to commend the substantially uniform excellence of their work.

ARTHUR T. CONNOLLY  
LOUIS E. KIRSTEIN  
GUY W. CURRIER  
CLIFTON H. DWINNELL  
GORDON ABBOTT

**BALANCE SHEET.**  
**1927**

## BALANCE SHEET, RECEIPTS AND

DR.

## CENTRAL LIBRARY AND BRANCHES:

## To expenditures for

Permanent employees (exclusive of Printing and  
Binding departments) . . . . .

\$536,140.25

Temporary employees . . . . .

99,410.84

\$635,551.09

## Service other than personal

Contract work (outside) . . . . .

281.90

Advertising . . . . .

108.55

Transportation of persons . . . . .

1,369.29

Cartage and freight . . . . .

12,284.91

Light and power . . . . .

13,313.92

Rent, taxes and water . . . . .

17,303.74

Surety bond and insurance . . . . .

17.50

Communication . . . . .

2,640.90

Cleaning towels, etc. . . . .

1,273.07

Removal of snow and ashes . . . . .

364.20

Medical . . . . .

9.00

Expert . . . . .

15,968.38

Fees . . . . .

70.00

Central plant repairs . . . . .

83,567.71

148,573.07

## To expenditure for equipment

Machinery . . . . .

681.08

Motorless vehicles . . . . .

851.50

Furniture and fittings . . . . .

14,563.76

Office . . . . .

950.81

## Books:

City appropriation . . . . . \$115,479.75

Trust funds income 19,455.25

plus transfer to

London account 5,000.00 24,455.25 139,935.00

## Newspapers:

City appropriation . . . . . 1,317.76

Todd fund . . . . . 2,347.00 3,664.76

Periodicals . . . . . 10,499.65

Photographs . . . . . 175.20

Lantern slides . . . . . 306.45

Tools and instruments . . . . . 1,540.43

General plant equipment . . . . . 1,979.94

175,148.58

## To expenditure for supplies

Office . . . . . 7,352.05

Food and ice . . . . . 606.59

Fuel . . . . . 22,047.06

Forage for animals . . . . . 29.25

Medical . . . . . 18.20

Laundry, cleaning, toilet . . . . . 2,021.97

Agricultural . . . . . 699.67

Chemicals and disinfectants . . . . . 85.23

General plant supplies . . . . . 2,964.09

35,824.11

Carried forward . . . . .

\$995,096.85

## EXPENSES, DECEMBER 31, 1927

CR.

By CITY APPROPRIATION 1927 . . . . .	\$1,104,569.00	
Income from Trust funds . . . . .	26,804.66	
Income from James L. Whitney Bibliographic account . . . . .	700.00	
Interest on deposit in London . . . . .	211.85	
	<u>          </u>	\$ 27,716.51

## BY BALANCES BROUGHT FORWARD FROM 1926:

Trust funds income, City Treasury . . . . .	58,034.16	
Trust funds income on deposit in London . . . . .	4,040.16	
City appropriation on deposit in London . . . . .	6,626.30	
James L. Whitney Bibliographic account . . . . .	6,438.33	
Library Building Addition, equipping and furnishing . . . . .	11,799.39	
Library Building Addition, etc. . . . .	2,416.34	
	<u>          </u>	89,354.68

Carried forward . . . . .

            
\$117,071.19

## BALANCE SHEET, RECEIPTS AND

**DR.**

Brought forward		\$995,096.85
To expenditure for material		
Building	498.00	
Electrical	3,584.20	
General plant	11,090.31	
		15,172.51
Special item		
Pension	863.50	
A. L. Whitney Fund (Employees' sick benefit)	260.00	1,123.50
BINDING DEPARTMENT:		
Salaries	54,718.89	
Stock	6,114.30	
Equipment	470.21	
Light	56.43	
Repairs	116.13	
Outside work	.70	
Electrical materials, ice and supplies	39.37	
		61,516.03
PRINTING DEPARTMENT:		
Salaries	13,628.02	
Stock	4,385.39	
Equipment	6,742.33	
Light	37.62	
Repairs	1,157.74	
Outside work	150.51	
Insurance	89.61	
Telegrams, ice and supplies	54.38	
		26,245.60
TO AMOUNT PAID INTO CITY TREASURY:		
From Fines	18,529.10	
Sales of catalogues, bulletins and lists	100.61	
Payments for lost books	1,154.14	
Interest on bank deposit	45.32	
Commission on telephone stations	696.34	
Refund	2.00	
		20,527.51
TO BALANCE, DECEMBER 31, 1927:		
Trust funds income on deposit in London	1,133.54	
City appropriation on deposit in London	4,198.58	
Trust funds income, City Treasury	60,332.04	
James L. Whitney Bibliographic account	7,138.33	
Interest on deposit in London	211.85	
		73,014.34
BALANCE UNEXPENDED:		
General appropriation	35,255.63	
Central Library Building Addition, etc.	2,416.34	
Central Library Building Addition, Equipping	11,799.39	
		49,471.36
		1,242,167.70

EXPENSES, DECEMBER 31, 1927

					CR.
<i>Brought forward</i> . . . . .					\$117,071.19
By RECEIPTS.					
From Fines	.	.	.	18,529.10	
Sales of catalogues, bulletins and lists	.	.	.	100.61	
Commission on telephone stations	.	.	.	696.34	
Payments for lost books	.	.	.	1,154.14	
Interest on bank deposit	.	.	.	45.32	
Refund	.	.	.	2.00	
					<hr/>
					20,527.51

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\$1,242,167.70



# REPORT OF THE EXAMINING COMMITTEE.

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE PUBLIC LIBRARY  
OF THE CITY OF BOSTON.

*Gentlemen:*

The Examining Committee takes pleasure in submitting its report for the year 1927.

The twenty-four members appointed by you for the year 1927-8 have been divided into six sub-committees to examine into and report upon as many special aspects of the Library, while all members form one sub-committee on Branches. The Examining Committee has accepted the reports of these sub-committees substantially as made, and commends their recommendations to the Trustees.

## ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE

(a) Since the report of last year, the rewiring of the main Library, which was obsolete and dangerous, has been undertaken, but not yet completed. Other repairs, also, for which appropriations were made last year, have been started but not finished. This work should be expedited.

(b) The money appropriated in the past for the up-keep of the main Library has not been sufficient to keep the property in proper repair so that the Library can give adequate service to the citizens of Boston. The committee therefore has submitted several detailed suggestions for repairs to floors, to the roof, to the Lecture Hall, and for remodelling the old manuscript room.

(c) The committee recommends an increase in the book appropriation to \$175,000, as the money now appropriated is not sufficient to take care properly of the requirements at the main Library and its branches.

(d) Although there have been requests for additional branch libraries, the committee feels that the first obligation of the Library is to "put its house in order" and make the necessary repairs and improvements in the central building and branches.

#### BUILDINGS AND EQUIPMENT

*Central Library.* The committee made a thorough investigation and examination of the Central Library building. It is quite apparent that the building has not been kept in good condition and that many changes are needed and much repairing work must be done. It is indeed gratifying to learn that the City government has appropriated by a loan order \$250,000 for extensive alterations and changes in the building, and that this sum, together with various budgetary provisions, will permit the Trustees to remedy many defects in the building and permit of some of the changes and alterations desired. The committee is advised that from this money, the roof, now in poor condition, will be repaired; that the inadequate lighting and defective wiring of the building will be cared for; that the rearrangement suggested by the committee on Buildings and Equipment of last year, and as proposed by the Trustees, of the present Music Room and the Barton-Ticknor Room and the long North Gallery will be effected; that the Treasure Room will become a reality; and that the sprinkler system will be extended and certain other general repairs will be made.

Our Library is recognized as one of the most beautiful buildings in the city, if not in the country, and its beauty should not be permitted to suffer by reason of neglect. The committee does not know just what general repairs will be made from the funds available to the Trustees, but makes the following recommendations for repairs and installations in the event that the Trustees have not included them within the general repairs.

The floors throughout the general reading and exhibition rooms are in unsatisfactory condition. The beautiful rooms are marred because of a repaired or cracked floor. It is suggested that a rubber tiled floor similar to that now used in the Children's Room be used more extensively throughout the building.

The committee is advised that the Trustees propose to substitute, in certain portions of the Library, steel stacks for books in place of the wooden ones. This policy should be carried on until all the book stacks in the Library, for which more adequate protection is desirable, are made of steel.

Our examination of the basement discloses the fact that many books are shelved there. The books in the basement, it is true, consist mainly of periodicals and other books very rarely called for. The large number of books in the basement indicates the necessity of a proper warehouse of some kind where they may be properly kept and the books sent for when needed. The Library building is quite crowded and much space could be made available for library purposes if some sort of an annex were secured.

The committee recommends that further consideration be given to the necessity of cleaning the paintings and walls in the building.

The committee feels that with the large number of branches and the necessity of traveling to them by the Library officials, the Trustees may well consider the advisability of securing an automobile for the Library officials, especially for the use of the Director and the Supervisors of Branches and of Work with Children.

*Branches.* The committee is opposed to the present arrangement of maintaining branch libraries in business blocks and small stores. Such an arrangement, while perhaps economical, is not prudent or satisfactory. In several parts of the city branches are maintained in small stores never intended for library purposes, but remodelled and maintained as far as possible for library purposes. These branch libraries are sometimes confronted with the problem of bad plumbing, improper heating facilities, and troublesome landlords who drive as hard a bargain as possible when the lease-making period arrives. Adults are required to mingle with small children. Space is insufficient and in many instances the branch is improperly located because no store is available in the desired section of the community.

#### BOOKS AND CATALOGUES

There is growing demand for books sought by readers. So far as this demand is constant and permanent, the books sought should be owned by the Library in sufficient numbers to provide

a reasonable opportunity for all to have them within a reasonable time. Where the demand is evanescent for recent and much advertised books, the Public Library cannot be expected to supply them for all quickly.

The supply of children's books is inadequate, and should be increased. With the opportunities ever increasing for education of adults, with continuation schools and extension courses, the demand for books for use in these ways is constantly growing.

To meet all these needs, the only available source is the appropriation from the City Treasury, which for the last two years has been \$125,000 each year. This year the Trustees have asked for an increase of \$25,000 in this appropriation, which the committee cordially endorses.

The committee has considered in what way the income from trust funds now available can be augmented in adding to the scholarly collections of the Public Library. We can only suggest to persons in the community who are interested in the Library, to support it through donations similar to the support now given to the Boston Art Museum; and we suggest the feasibility of the organization of a committee to work with and under the Trustees of the Public Library for this purpose.

The catalogues and the system of cataloguing, we believe are excellent, and we are informed that the Printing Department is now in process of re-organization.

We recommend that a photostat should be obtained for the reproduction of cards already printed, as well as documents, portions of books and other contents of the Library, which are from time to time sought.

#### SPECIAL LIBRARIES

The committee records its great satisfaction in the plans of the Board of Trustees and the Director, as also recommended by previous Examining Committees, for making more secure the care of the important works in the Special Libraries and in the proposed new Treasure Room. In view of the anticipated changes in housing the collections, we gave our attention particularly to the uses made of them. From our observations, the

reference works in the Fine Arts Department are particularly useful to students in the higher grades. This phase of library service seems most important and to be further developed.

The new arrangements of technical reference works are also noted, and the committee recommends that every possible aid be given to craftsmen, students and business men who are not now sufficiently familiar with the uses of such works and do not know to what extent they are available.

#### CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT AND WORK WITH SCHOOLS

The committee has given thoughtful attention to the Children's Department, and is convinced that the work is being efficiently done. The committee approves the recommendations made by last year's committee, and finds that definite progress has been made in carrying them out.

The need for more books is still pressing, while the need for more shelf room is general. In some cases it appears that, during the winter months, increased facilities for ventilation would be very helpful.

The Assistant Superintendent of Schools, who is chairman of a committee on School and Library co-operation, answering an inquiry for suggestions, stated that the Library has always generously responded to all calls from the schools and that he had no suggestions to offer.

The policy adopted by some teachers of giving librarians ample notice of what books they are likely to need for school or home work has worked well.

It might be helpful if pupils from the higher grades could come in groups, say not more than twenty in a group, to one or more of the branch libraries to learn the use of the card catalogue, including titles, subjects and authors. It is suggested that pupils making such visits might receive school credit.

Since great stress is being put upon "Adult Education", "Reading with a Purpose" and the like, and since the branch libraries are crowded and the school houses unoccupied many hours each day, it is suggested that rooms in certain school houses might be used for the older pupils for school work or reference

work of any kind a few hours each evening, if proper supervision and service could be provided. This might relieve the congestion at certain libraries and at the same time afford adults opportunity for systematic reading, which the Department of Education is so strongly advocating.

### BRANCHES

All of the thirty-one branches have been visited.

Marked improvements have been made during the year in several branches, some of them following recommendations of the Examining Committee of a year ago. For example: Dorchester, by the removal of the District Court, has now additional room space and an entrance and hall used solely for the Library. Again, Brighton has a lecture hall and new lighting. Boylston is about to have enlarged quarters with room for adults. West End is freshly painted. Neponset is freshly painted and well lit. Fire exits have been increased. Such improvements are gladly noted and commended.

More important still is the conviction of the committee that much pains is taken by the administrative staff to improve the personnel of the librarian service and assistance. The interest and intelligence of the workers is indicated in such ways as window exhibits and special collections of books for branch neighborhoods where there are many persons of foreign extraction or many persons are following particular industries.

The marked needs in the service through the branches can hardly be overemphasized when we consider that the branches are the chief way of reaching the people of the whole city. The circulation through many of them is increasing. Many are in rapidly growing residential neighborhoods. They are close to the schools. They will be used by many more adults if made attractive to adults.

The need most generally expressed is for more books, supplied with reasonable promptness from the Central Library in answer to requests from branches. The estimate now of unsuccessful requests is about 70 per cent. The quality of books requested is higher than formerly.

Wholly new or enlarged quarters are urged for Allston, Mt. Bowdoin, Parker Hill, and are desirable for Jeffries Point and Orient Heights. Conditions at Mt. Bowdoin, crowded with children from ten large schools, and having a few seats only for adults, in an old wooden building, difficult to keep sanitary — altogether are a serious handicap to the staff and distinctly discreditable to the city. The plan made for enlargement at Parker Hill has fallen down. At Codman Square, where there is increased work with the schools, a separate room for juveniles is desirable, such as the large room in the basement, which has a separate entrance and stairway to the Library above. On the other hand, Mt. Pleasant and Memorial are illustrations of inadequate space for adults, and Memorial illustrates the tendency for a branch housed in a school building to be looked upon as chiefly for children.

Fellowes Athenæum and Mt. Pleasant illustrate the duty of considering neighborhood conditions as bearing on the uses of branches, such as the need of more adequate street lighting and of signs to indicate locations.

The Examining Committee recommends as a policy that branch buildings be erected by the Trustees and devoted wholly to library purposes; this policy should be adopted as soon as possible. As an alternative, branch libraries may be located in schoolhouses or other public buildings, *provided* that library quarters are kept independent, with a separate entrance, with rooms near the street level for both adults and children, and with separate lecture hall, storage, and space for all other library requirements. Privately owned buildings should be avoided.

We are glad to hear that the Library Trustees are considering the appointment of the Examining Committee in the spring, so that its report can be made before the Library budget for the coming year is determined. Our examination and experience lead us strongly to the desirability of this practice.

The Examining Committee thanks the Director and the staff for help and many courtesies.

Adopted as the Report of the Examining Committee,  
March 5, 1928.

## REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR

### TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

I respectfully submit my report for the year ending December 31, 1927.

#### PROGRESS IN THE YEAR OF ANNIVERSARY.

The year 1927 marked the seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of the Public Library of the City of Boston. While there was no formal observance of the anniversary, the occasion was recognized during the summer months by an extensive exhibit of material illustrating the growth and development of the Library and by a series of historical articles which appeared in the successive issues of the Library bulletin, "More Books".

The volumes in the Library have grown from less than 10,000 to 1,418,489. The home circulation in 1927 numbered 3,705,657 volumes. The total annual expenditures have increased from less than \$10,000 to \$1,099,173.

To-day it would require a shelf reaching from Boston to Plymouth, a distance of 35 miles, to hold the books in the Library system, while a shelf long enough to reach from Boston to Hartford, a distance of 100 miles, would be necessary to care for the books issued in 1927 for home use. If the books used in the Central Library and the branches for reference and other purposes were added to the number of books taken out of the Library the shelf would need to be extended another 100 miles, or to New York City.

The outstanding accomplishment of the year was the completion of the arrangements by which the George F. Baker Library of the Harvard Graduate School of Business Administration became a branch of the Boston Public Library system. This great library of books on business and allied subjects, including the collections of the Business Historical Association, is freely open to the public for reference, and the closest connection is maintained between it and the Central Library in Copley Square.



Another interesting feature of the year has been the establishment of a Training Class, which began its work in October with an enrolment of fourteen, and which has already proved its value. The class is not intended to take the place of a library school, but to provide training for members of the staff and for outside applicants who have at least a high school education and who are unable to go to a library school.

The usual normal growth was noted in all departments during the year. Although the accessions for the year, including purchases and gifts, amounted to 98,487 volumes, the outstanding complaint of those who use the Library is that they are unable to obtain the required book when called for, an evidence of the fact that the Library is unable with its present book appropriation to buy a sufficient number of copies of a new book to meet the normal demand for it. The Library is glad however, to report an increase for the year in home circulation of books to the number of 306,520 over the circulation for 1926.

Although there is great need for additional branch libraries, two sections of the city, Readville and Germantown, being without any public library facilities, and although a number of applications have been received for the establishment of new branches in various sections of the city, the budget for 1928 contained no request for funds to establish additional branches. The first obligation of the Library Department is to "put its house in order"; to make the necessary repairs and improvements in the Central Building and existing branches; and to provide, where possible, additional room for branch libraries which are already over-crowded or in other ways unsatisfactorily housed. In ten of the existing branches additional rooms are needed. The children in these branches have practically driven out adult users. Little progress can be made in adult education through the library when no adequate provision is made for adult readers or students. Two branches are at present entirely too small to meet the needs of both children and adults, although separate rooms are provided.

The study of the Central Library and its branches made by the members of the Examining Committee of this year will undoubtedly suggest to them many desirable changes and additions.

and will also call attention to the need of additional assistants in certain departments and branches.

From the point of view of the public, as intimated, there is outstanding need for more books and better library accommodations. In addition to this, the physical needs of the Central Library and branches should be given attention as the necessary appropriations become available.

There will be found on page 68 certain suggestive tables of comparisons showing the growth of the Library Department during the past twenty-five years, in five-year periods.

#### ACCESSIONS AND GIFTS OF THE YEAR.

The total number of volumes added to the Library collections in 1927 was 98,487, acquired as follows: 82,271 by purchase, 12,577 by gift, 144 by exchange, 3,495 by binding periodicals and serials. Of the books purchased, 16,127 were added to the Central Library and 66,144 were placed in branch libraries and in the Central Library Deposit Collection, which serves as a reservoir for the branches.

The total amount expended for accessions by purchase was \$154,841.06, which included \$27,413.40 paid from the income of Trust funds. The corresponding amount for the preceding year was \$150,161.92 including \$24,168.50 paid from Trust funds income.

The City appropriation for books was the same as in 1926, namely, \$125,000. The disposition of this appropriation has not varied greatly from that of the preceding year. It has enabled the Library to extend with fresh material the circulating and reference collections of 31 branches and the various divisions of the Central Library, and has contributed in large measure to the repair of the ravages of wear and loss among the older books. It has not permitted the purchase of a large number of copies of current books of wide interest. To a library with active collections of books ranging from technology, architecture, painting, music, genealogy, statistics, education and works of reference to children's books and fiction, the question of satisfying, if only in a measure, the demands made by a growing constituency in a large city is a constant problem — the problem of adjusting the

increasing need of books to a more or less stationary annual income. In other words, the pattern is always larger than the cloth.

The distribution of book funds shows \$98,444.75 expended for branches and Branch Deposit, including \$4,155.96 for periodicals and newspapers. In addition, \$2,706.69 was drawn from branch trust funds to supplement the City appropriation in Charlestown, South Boston and Mattapan, making a total for branches and Deposit of \$101,151.44. The Central Library accounting shows an expenditure of \$53,689.62, including \$24,706.71 charged to Trust funds and including also \$7,014.94 for periodicals and \$620.61 for newspapers. This expenditure for newspapers is in addition to the income from the Todd Fund which for several years has been inadequate to cover the cost of the list originally subscribed for.

The important acquisitions of the year include a notable collection of works for the Bowditch Library bought with the income of the Bowditch Fund. A catalogue of more than 3,000 works on mathematics and astronomy assembled in London was carefully examined with reference to those already here, and the aid and expert judgment of Dr. Harlow Shapley, Director of the Harvard College Observatory, were enlisted in making the selection. The Library is deeply indebted to Dr. Shapley who undertook the checking of desirable titles in the midst of pressing duties.

Among the older works secured were six titles by Ptolemy, 1515-1605; four titles by Sacro Busco, 1490-1584; three titles by Tycho Brahe, 1603-1610; *Istoria*, by Galileo, 1613; *Cosmotheoros*, by Huygens, 1699; *Prodromus astronomiae*, by Hevelius, 1690; and the first edition of *Principia*, (1687), by Newton.

The Library has secured an important collection in facsimile of maps covering the period of the American Revolution, reproduced from originals in the Paris Archives under the direction of Dr. L. C. Karpinski.

A collection of commemorative material issued in connection with the Beethoven Centenary in the principal cities and musical centers of Europe is an outstanding acquisition. The collection comprises concert programs of music societies, posters, monographs, photographs and excerpts of special significance from foreign newspapers and periodicals. The material produced on the continent of Europe was assembled, arranged, mounted and indexed in eight portfolios by K. W. Hiersemann, the

Library agent in Leipzig; similar matter issued in England was collected by Harold Reeves in London.

Noteworthy individual works acquired include:

Bacon, Francis. Of the proficiencie and advancement of learning. London, 1605. (The first edition.)

The Barons' Book of England, from the Conquest to the 3d year of James 1st. Folio manuscript of 86 leaves with 544 coats of arms colored by a contemporary hand. Circa 1610.

Boccaccio. De casibus virorum illustrium. English by Dan John Lidgate, monke of Burye. (London, 1554) Colophon.

A disputation concerning church-members and their children in answer to XXI questions . . wherein the state of such children . . . is discussed by an assembly of Divines meeting at Boston in New England, June 4, 1657. Now published by a Lover of Truth. London, 1659. Published anonymously. Ascribed to Nathaniel and possibly Increase Mather in the Brinley and Barlow Catalogues.

Mather, Cotton. Shaking dispensation. An essay upon the mighty Shakes which the hand of Heaven hath given and is giving, to the world. With some useful remarks on the death of the French King, who left off to make the World a Wilderness and to destroy the Cities thereof: on the Twenty-first of August 1715. In a sermon on that great occasion at Boston, New England. 13d VIII m. 1715. Printed by B. Green. Sold by S. Gerrish . . . 1715.

A privately printed set of the Plays and Poems of Shakespeare edited by J. Payne Collier, London 1878, of which only 58 copies were printed. The set secured for the Library is complete in 43 original parts forming eight volumes.

The following titles represent a brief selection of the important books added to the Fine Arts division:

Bakst, Leon. Inedited works of Bakst. [With] Essays on Bakst by Louis Réau, Denis Roche, V. Svietlov and A. Tessier. New York. 1927. Illus.

Godard, Octave. Jardins de la Côte d'Azur. Paris, 1927. Plates. For the Codman Collection of Landscape Architecture.

Hentschel, Walter. Sächsische Plastik um 1500. Dresden, 1926. Illus. A survey of late Gothic sculpture in Saxony.

Hurlbutt, Frank. Bow porcelain. London, 1926. 56 plates, of which 8 are in color. Covers the whole range of Bow manufacture.

Kaufmann, Isidor. (Reproductions of paintings of Jewish life.) (Vienna, 1926). 16 colored plates.

Mayer, August Liebmann. Dominico Theotocopuli, El Greco. München, 1926. 90 plates.

- Mehta, Nānālāl Chamanlāl-. Studies in Indian painting. Bombay, 1926. 61 plates.
- Roerich, George. Tibetan paintings. Paris, 1925. With 17 full plate reproductions of Tibetan paintings.

Among other miscellaneous works of interest acquired are:

- Pierre d'Ailly. Imago Mundi incipit. Circa 1483. A photostat reproduction of a copy in the Library of Seville (Spain) which contains 800 annotations which have been ascribed by some to Christopher Columbus. Reproduced by the Massachusetts Historical Society.
- A set of Enciclopedia Universal ilustrada Europeo-Americana. Published in Barcelona and now in its 58th volume. (For Bates Hall)
- A short-title catalogue of books printed in England, Scotland, and Ireland, and of English books printed abroad 1475-1640. Published by the London Bibliographical Society and compiled by A. W. Pollard and G. R. Redgrave.
- The Commonwealth History of Massachusetts, edited by Albert Bushnell Hart, as far as issued. 22 sets for the Central Library and branches.

During the year gifts have been received as follows: From various donors, 14,239 volumes, 15,196 serials, 996 photographs and 52 newspaper subscriptions.

From Mr. Louis E. Kirstein the sum of one thousand dollars, to be added to the "Louis E. Kirstein Fund."

From Mrs. Helen O. Storrow and Miss Elizabeth Randolph Storrow, the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars to be funded as the "James Jackson Storrow (Harvard '57) Fund" and the income used for the purchase of Italian books, as requested by the donors.

From the executor of the estate of Helen Leah Reed, the sum of one thousand dollars, being a bequest to the Library under her will, "to be held as a fund called the Guilford Reed Fund in memory of Guilford S. Reed, and the income only of this fund shall be used for the purchase of books of non-fiction."

Certain additional gifts of interest, with the names of the donors, are listed on pages 75-76 of the Appendix.

#### REGISTRATION DEPARTMENT.

On January 1, 1927 there were 135,445 "live" cards in the hands of Boston citizens for the withdrawal of library books

for home use. Through the Central Library and its 31 branches there have been added 30,869 new registrations and 40,818 renewals, making a total of 71,687 cards added during the year. To offset this, 65,731 borrowers, including students and others who are no longer residents, allowed their home-use privilege to lapse, making a total of 141,401 "live" cards on December 31, 1927. The net gain of registered card holders was 5,956 over the previous year.

Prior to January 1, 1927, 10,153 cards had been issued to teachers. Of this number 1,498 have been renewed and 428 issued during the year, making a total of 1,926 teachers' cards in use. Of the 4,008 "special privilege" cards issued prior to January 1, 1927, there were 361 renewals and 180 new cards granted during the year, making a total of 541 "special privilege" cards now in use.

#### CATALOGUE AND SHELF DEPARTMENT.

During the year 1927, the number of volumes and parts of volumes catalogued was 115,447, covering 81,736 titles. Included in these numbers were 67,602 volumes (57,534 titles) assigned to the branch libraries and catalogued in the Central Branch Department.

The number of printed cards added to the catalogues of the Central Library alone was 45,424, and 20,075 were used in compiling bibliographies, or were reserved for such use in the future. The distribution of cards among the departments of the Central Library was: Bates Hall, 18,101; Official Catalogue, 18,650; Special Libraries, 8,673. Cards were also sent as usual to the Harvard College Library and the Library of Congress.

In order to hasten the appearance of new books in our catalogues, 11,876 temporary cards have been typed by the Card Division, to be replaced later by printed cards. As the result of this device, titles of recent accessions have been in the catalogues as soon as the books have been placed on the shelves. Over 5,100 cards have also been typed for the use of the Editor.

## PUBLICATIONS.

The Library bulletin "More Books", issued in its present form and under its new title since March, 1925, has been conducted along the same lines as last year. The publication is now firmly established and has proved to be a success with the public. Each issue is received with interest, and the first edition of 4,500 copies is usually nearly exhausted within three weeks of its publication. Each number carries a classified list of new books with descriptive notes and a synopsis of classification, in addition to a long article either on the book treasures of the Library, or on some topic of literary interest. For instance, the March issue contained three separate articles relating to the Beethoven Centenary. The September issue was almost entirely devoted, as were those of November and December, to the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Library.

Essays contributed by members of the staff were published on Joshua Bates, Alexandre Vattemare and Thomas Pennant Barton, men prominent among the founders of the Library about whom little had been written in recent years. Other articles described the collections and activities of the Library, such as the Branch system, the Catalogue Department and the Divisions of Fine Arts and Technology. Rare books and manuscripts recently acquired have also been described in separate articles; a Revolutionary Orderly Book, for instance, in the May issue, and a First Edition copy of Newton's *Principia* in the December issue. These and similar articles were usually illustrated with facsimiles.

A regular feature of the bulletin is "Ten Books" consisting of short and impersonal reviews which call attention to the more important new books. The selection aims to be comprehensive, ranging from art and literature to sociology and science, and including a wide variety of subjects. Its purpose is to interest the intelligent general reader rather than the specialist.

"Reading the Magazines" is another popular feature. Even a few paragraphs on recent articles that have appeared in the periodicals, make for timeliness and a few dozen lines on the leading foreign magazines give the reader a feeling that there is



breadth of view in the editing of the bulletin. "Library Notes", which usually occupy four or five pages, consist mainly of short bibliographical notices. Here also may be found certain communications of interest from the office of the Director.

Last year there were printed seven issues of "More Books", comprising in all, 360 pages. It is the hope of the Library to publish ten numbers a year, nine monthly numbers, and for the summer months one quarterly. It is hoped that this aim will be realized in the near future, in order that it may not be necessary to issue double numbers. In the meantime it must be recognized that the printing of the bulletin, in addition to the other steadily increasing demands on the Printing Department, represents a considerable task.

In connection with the fifth annual conference of the Workers' Education Bureau of America, held in Boston in April, 1927, the Library published "Brief Reading List, No. 36", entitled "Workers' Education, a selected list of books and articles."

Bibliographical lists have, as usual, been printed for the lectures on the programs of the Boston Symphony Orchestra, given by the Massachusetts Division of University Extension, in co-operation with the Library. Programs and lists were also issued for twelve concerts given in the Lecture Hall, prominent among which were the eight Chamber Music concerts presented through the courtesy of Mrs. Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge.

"Opportunities for Adult Education in Greater Boston," a list of courses of lectures free to the public or available at a nominal fee, without educational pre-requisites, was again published in 1927-28; the pamphlet this year contains over one hundred pages.

Part V of the "Guide to Serial Publications founded prior to 1918" and now or recently current in Boston, Cambridge, and vicinity, is now ready for publication. The material has been steadily increased through the generous co-operation of several libraries, including the New York Public Library, the Library of Congress and the John Crerar Library, and the current catalogue of this material may be consulted in the Barton Gallery with the help of Mr. Thomas Johnson Homer, the editor of the "Guide."



## BATES HALL

If one may judge from the increase of more than 10% in the number of books sent from the stacks for the use of readers, the year has been a busy one in Bates Hall. The total for the year was 260,623 volumes, with no record of the steady use of books from the open shelves in the Hall.

The Reference Collection is under constant revision; 217 volumes have been retired to the stacks in the course of the year, 242 new volumes have been placed in the Hall, and 577 have been given new locations in the process of rearrangement. The shelves devoted to geography are at present undergoing a complete revision. The Atlas Collection has been condensed and many atlases which were out of date have been retired. An important addition of the year has been the *Enciclopedia Universal Ilustrada*, the publication of which began in Barcelona in 1905, and which has now, in its fifty-eighth volume, reached the letter T. This little-known encyclopaedia is one of the most important works of reference produced in modern times.

The Hall has been improved by the installation of handsome oak tables at the Catalogue, and by the completion of the new lighting of the bookcases, which greatly facilitates the finding of books in the evening.

The correspondence of the Department shows little change from the figures of last year; 229 genealogical inquiries were answered by mail, and 574 requests for information on general subjects. In this correspondence forty-four of the forty-eight United States and seven foreign countries were represented.

The work of the Division of Genealogy has continued to justify itself in improved service to readers. Increased emphasis has been laid on the various phases of Adult Education work. An office will soon be opened on the lower floor of the Library, where a Readers' Adviser may be consulted by the public. The sale of the "Reading with a Purpose" pamphlets issued by the American Library Association has gone on steadily; the sales by this Library have now reached a total of 13,150 copies.

The frequently crowded condition of the Hall raises anew the problem of its occupation as a study room by persons who are

using no library books. These students from near-by schools and colleges are sometimes careless of the rights of legitimate readers, and it is probable that this Library, like many others throughout the country, will find it necessary to consider steps for guarding itself against abuse by this class of visitors.

#### NEWSPAPER AND PATENT ROOMS.

The Newspaper Room continues to be crowded, although there is no attempt at a definite record of readers. There are now regularly received 213 daily and 55 weekly papers, of which 190 are published in the United States and 78 in 31 foreign countries. One hundred and fourteen volumes of bound newspapers have been added to the files, which now contain 9,357. In the course of the year 19,264 visitors consulted 33,174 bound volumes of newspapers — an average of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  uses for each volume in the collection. No portion of the Library has larger possibilities for students of contemporary history than this great mass of the news of other years printed while it was still fresh.

Six hundred and eighty-eight volumes were added to the collection of patents during the year. It is a satisfaction to record that the gaps in the set of German Patentschriften, resulting from the War, have been largely filled, so that this valuable file is now practically complete.

#### INFORMATION OFFICE, GOVERNMENT DOCUMENT ROOM AND OPEN SHELF ROOM.

The Information Office continues to save the time and energy of those persons who wish to use the Library but are unfamiliar with its many departments. Tourists likewise, in seeking all manner of information, find the office of great value. During the year there has been an increased number of telephone calls for service of various kinds from business firms, special libraries, schools and individuals. This increase in service rendered is true also of the other departments of reference in the Library.

Approximately 1,115 new catalogues, pamphlets and clippings have been added to the Vocational Guidance file. The attendants have been consulted about every possible kind of

especially related to the fields covered by those departments, as follows:

Fine Arts and Music Divisions of the Special Libraries . . . . .	136
Ordering Department . . . . .	27
Statistical Department . . . . .	55
Teachers' Reference Room and Children's Room . . . . .	70
	<hr/>
Periodical Room . . . . .	288
	<hr/>
Total number of periodicals currently received . . . . .	1281
	<hr/>
	1569

#### SPECIAL LIBRARIES DEPARTMENT.

The Special Libraries include all the collections housed on the third floor of the Central Building and comprise the divisions of Fine Arts, Music, Technology, and the special collections of the Library contained in the Barton-Ticknor Division. The fields covered by these four divisions were defined in detail in the Annual Reports for 1923 and 1924.

The numerous changes in arrangement and organization carried out in the past few years have resulted in better service, as reflected in the substantial increase in circulation (seven per cent), and a noticeable growth in the "hall use" of books. The crowded condition, especially in the afternoon, of the Fine Arts reading room has made it increasingly necessary to use some of the West Gallery student tables for general readers.

During the renovations in the summer months, the entire open-shelf reference collection, charging and reference desks, and telephone were moved into the West Gallery, and the card catalogue into the south pavilion. The book circulation was not affected to any degree by this temporary arrangement, but, inasmuch as it was possible to move only a small part of the circulating picture collection, a noticeable decrease in the home use of pictures resulted.

Early in the year a "Randex" file, listing Fine Arts and Technical periodicals in one alphabet with call-number, was made for the Indicator desk, in order to facilitate service to readers.

The Fine Arts Division has continued to build up its collections on the new classification schedule, the classified books

now being expanded into two alcoves. No large increase has been made in the picture collection, but, owing to an unusual opportunity of purchasing lantern slides, the Library has added some five thousand selected slides, thereby almost doubling its resources.

The Technology Division has continued work on its special reference tools, and has added many pictures to the technical picture collection. The moving of all the technical books when the alcoves were painted made possible a complete re-shelving of the collection, and the separation of the classified books from the unclassified. This has improved the service and provided room for growth. The usefulness of the chemical reference alcove is shown in the large numbers of students and chemists who daily consult these books.

The Music Division, as in former years, has continued its series of interpretive lectures on symphony concerts and operas, and has issued most interesting and useful annotated programs and booklists.

The number of books issued for home use from the Special Libraries during the year was 25,195, an increase of seven per cent as compared with last year. For use outside the Library there were issued 27,039 pictures and 8,448 lantern slides.

#### WORK WITH CHILDREN.

The year has been one of expansion in children's work throughout the Library system. The home use of books drawn directly from the Central and branch libraries on children's cards amounted to 1,691,269 volumes, a gain of 59,833 volumes over 1926. To meet this call on the resources of the department, \$50,149.61 of the book fund was spent on books for children to be placed in the Children's Room of the Central Library and in the thirty-one branches, and to be sent on deposit to the schools, public and parochial.

It is worth noting that more than seventy per cent of the amount annually spent for children's books goes for the replacement of worn-out or missing copies, while only a scant twenty-five per cent is spent for new volumes and for additional copies of a

given book required to keep pace with the growth in the number of card holders.

The importance of replacing books, however, cannot be denied, as the main body of children's literature is composed of books that have been tested for years and found acceptable to young readers. All replacement orders are given individual consideration, so that the collections may be kept alive through the elimination of titles no longer needed. To simplify the routine detail involved in the examination of so many book cards, a list of 1,000 titles approved for replacement during the year was prepared by the Supervisor of Branches and is now in use by the branch librarians and by the Order Department. It is hoped to compile supplementary lists from time to time, and to revise the list at stated intervals. That the present collections gather little dust is shown by the high rate of turnover from the shelves of the children's rooms; for example, at the North End Branch, where, during the winter months, 1,200 books are often borrowed in the space of three hours, the average yearly circulation amounts to eighteen times for each book.

*Accommodations.* During 1927 one new children's room was opened, that at the Dorchester Branch, where highly unsuitable quarters on the third floor were replaced by a pleasant, well-equipped room on the street level. During the period of several months' intermission, when the old room had been ordered closed and the new one was not yet ready for occupancy, work with children was successfully carried on in the Grover Cleveland School near by. This was an interesting experiment in adaptation, promoting friendly relations with the school, and incidentally demonstrating how quickly an attractive children's room can be organized when need arises.

At Brighton the assembly or lecture room, which had been undergoing alterations, was again made available for the Story Hour, and has given satisfactory use for that purpose. After a full year in the Memorial High School the Memorial Branch is able to show evidences of continued appreciation of its enlarged facilities. How far it has been possible to give better service, with better equipment, is indicated by a gain of 12,087 in the number of books drawn on children's cards from Memorial

Branch. Since this is our only branch library in a high school building, the measure of its success is a matter of special concern. A report from the branch contains this comment: "We have but begun to sound the possibilities which can grow out of a closer union of the library and the school. A better understanding and appreciation of both school and library is slowly but surely growing, as a result of our close contact."

Whenever the opening of a new room admits expansion in the work with children, fresh impetus toward healthy growth follows. This has been noticeably the experience at Dorchester and Memorial branches. Furthermore, the new rooms have relieved to some extent the pressure at Mt. Bowdoin, which lies between the two, by checking a further increase of circulation which had become unwieldy in the present restricted space. Particular attention was given to the physical appearance of children's rooms in some of the older, less inviting branches. A few good pieces of pottery were acquired, and some suitable pictures bought to give color and warmth to dark interiors. Acknowledgments are due to the Junior Red Cross and the Children's Museum for their courtesy in lending stimulating exhibitions for display in show cases and windows. Different members of the staff have also shown judgment and skill in the preparation of projects, often spending a great deal of their own time voluntarily to make the children's rooms more attractive.

*Schools and Children's Rooms.* Deposits of books in the schools constitute an important method of extending the knowledge of library resources among teachers and children alike. School circulation amounted to 66,037, and might have been much larger if the Library had been able to supply more books. Changes in the curriculum are reflected in the requests from teachers, not only for books to be used in the classrooms, but also in the character of the reference work in the different children's rooms. There has been continued effort to make the reference collections more adequate in order to meet new requirements, especially in the field of industrial and commercial subjects. The ordinary type of geography, for example, is not enough, as the schools require more current information. For

this purpose, and also for furnishing facts about contemporary writers, the librarians rely more and more upon the pamphlet files which are being enlarged and strengthened in the different children's rooms.

The requirements of the intermediate or junior high schools call for special attention at the present time. As the required reading lists include a large proportion of books that are classed as adult literature, there is room for a broad and inclusive policy which will place more advanced books upon the children's shelves, or will admit younger readers to some divisions of the general adult collections of the Library system.

*Story Hours.* No slackening of the hold that the Story Hours have upon children can be seen. Six hundred and eighty-three regular story hours were held, with an attendance of thousands of children to whom the fine presentation of great classics, folklore, and legend was a quickening experience. Sufficient proof of the vitality of the story telling is given in the continued large attendance year after year, in spite of the multiplication of motion picture houses in practically every locality.

Requests from teachers and principals for story telling in the schools are too numerous to be supplied, and this is the more gratifying since the Library story tellers are the only outside visitors freely invited to the public schools.

For the first time the Library was able to include the summer vacation schools in a program of story telling, giving one period to each school during July and August. As the Museum of Fine Arts had discontinued its summer work along this line, the teachers and children were especially happy in the connection thus made with the great field of good reading.

*Central Children's Room.* The laying of the new floor covering in the Central Children's Room was an improvement long anticipated. It greatly enhances the beauty and comfort of the room and gives it increased dignity and finish.

While the room was closed, an opportunity to practice adaptation was afforded children and staff by the establishment of a small collection of books and a temporary charging service in the Venetian Lobby outside the room. Although the limitation on their habits of selection, combined with lack of seating room,

**MASON STREET SCHOOLHOUSE.**  
Location of Library, 1854-1858.







decreased the use of the Library by the younger readers and markedly affected the circulation of books, it was an interesting experiment. It revealed to the staff of the Children's Room the readers to whom the Library is indispensable, and who consequently make the best of an inconvenient situation. Moreover, there was a certain unlooked for value in the prominence suddenly given this phase of library work, which brought it before the eyes of the general visitor to whom it was previously unknown.

During the period of exclusion the annual Children's Book Week was observed by a display of books in the small reception room on the first floor. Entered upon as a makeshift, this proved to be a delightful innovation, affording an admirable opportunity to show off the new books among fitting surroundings. With the gratifying attendance of 1,739 observant visitors in the six weeks it was open, this was far and away the best exhibition of new books the Children's Department has ever held. Changes were made each day in the type of books shown in order to give consideration to different groups in the community who seek books from various motives. The staff is deserving of great commendation for its excellent and unified work under difficult conditions.

*Teachers' Room.* The quiet and convenience of a room in which one may work with necessary books at hand is appreciated not only by individuals who are teaching but equally by the students in colleges and other educational institutions. At times the capacity of the Teachers' Room is taxed to its limit with readers who are making the best use of its facilities.

Saturday is naturally the busiest day, and many books are brought from other parts of the Library on request of teachers who are taking advanced courses in one or another of the universities and colleges. In order to gain a little more space for the necessary expansion, some of the unused titles in the text book collection have been withdrawn and the shelves given up to material on psychology, curriculum formation, school surveys and so forth.

Summer school work brought teachers from all parts of the country and offered an opportunity to make the Library favorably

known by that best of all methods, service. The imperative need of increase in the book stock as well as in the seating capacity of this room continues to be its most difficult problem.

#### THE BRANCH SYSTEM.

The total circulation through the branch libraries and the Central Branch Department for the year was 3,358,967. This is a gain over 1926 of 200,415. The number of books issued from the Central Library through branches was 99,070; this includes 76,602 from the Deposit Collection and 22,468 from the stacks of the Central Library. Twenty-six of the branches gained in circulation. The greatest gains were at Uphams Corner, Mattapan, Memorial, Roxbury Crossing, Jamaica Plain, Codman Square, Hyde Park and Roslindale.

The number of volumes sent on deposit to 345 agencies (232 schools, 56 fire-engine houses and 57 institutions of various kinds) was 93,269 as against 86,570 last year. The total number of volumes sent to schools was 66,037, compared with 56,818 last year. Of this number 26,337 were sent from the Branch Issue Division, Central Library. The number of books issued on deposit from the branch libraries, chiefly to schools, was 39,700, compared with 37,134 in 1926.

Inter-library loans amounted to 1,987 volumes, 157 more than last year. Of the 2,569 applications received, 582 had to be refused. Twenty-four volumes were borrowed from other libraries.

The Dorchester Branch now rejoices in the finest children's room in the system, a room from which the municipal court moved about a year ago. The Neponset Branch has been completely renovated. A good-sized lecture hall has been added to the Brighton Branch; a small lecture hall to Faneuil Branch. The grounds of Brighton, Faneuil, Hyde Park and West End have been put into shape. Shrubbery has been trimmed and replaced and lawns have been reseeded.

The ever-increasing requests for new buildings in many different sections of the city attest a growing appreciation on the part of the public for the Library's extension service. With six-

teen such requests on file, a survey of the city's library needs seemed imperative. This request resulted in the preparation by branch librarians and their assistants of thirty detailed maps and thirty district guides of information. In this work the Secretary of the City Planning Board gave generous assistance. Using these maps and guides as a basis for study of an extension forecast, it has been possible to plot on one large map localities which in the near future should be given library service and to give adequate reasons for the selection of these localities.

A standard list of over 200 reference books with which all branch librarians and assistants should be familiar, has been prepared in loose-leaf form so that it can be readily revised and kept up to date.

The number of good books discarded has been for a long time a cause for anxiety. However, when the charging plates in these volumes show that months and often years have passed since the books were borrowed, and when shelf room is needed for the newer books now in demand, it appears wise to remove them. To dispose of standard books still in good condition, excepting discarded textbooks and out-of-date reference books, seems a mistaken policy. A single book on biography or philosophy may be useless, but related to others in a collection it frequently becomes of value. Hence, these books withdrawn from the shelves of the various branches are now being assembled in collections in the basements or attics of several branches where there is room for their care. At Dorchester, for instance, some 2,000 volumes of biography have been shelved. These books are available for students and research workers throughout the city.

#### EXHIBITIONS AND LECTURES.

During the year twenty-eight exhibitions were arranged; twenty-two being displayed in the Fine Arts Exhibition Room, and six in the Barton-Ticknor Room. Thirteen of the exhibits consisted of loan material; three of them comprising books. Fifteen were made of material owned by the Library. Eight were of books and documents; sixteen were of prints, paintings and

photographs; one was an arts and crafts exhibit of old world costumes, laces, etc.; one was of small soap sculpture; and another was the Boston Public Library Anniversary and Historical Exhibit. For list of exhibitions see Appendix, pages 73-74.

During the season 1927-28 there were given in the Lecture Hall 138 lectures and entertainments under the auspices of the Library, the Dickens Fellowship, the Drama League, the Field and Forest Club, the Ruskin Club, and other organizations. Following the established custom, they were all free to the public.

The lectures were in the following fields: travel, 23; literature, 17; music, 11; history, 9; drama, 7; art and archeology, 6; and miscellaneous, 33. There were also 32 concerts, recitals, and plays. Eight of the concerts were made possible through the generosity of Mrs. Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge, while various societies, orchestras, and ensembles contributed one concert each. All of these concerts appealed to a public so wide that the doors often had to be closed almost an hour before the scheduled beginning. It is a privilege to announce that The Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge Foundation has generously offered a series of six concerts for the season of 1928-29. For list of lectures, etc. see Appendix, pages 69-73.

In 1927-28 the Division of University Extension of the State Department of Education, as customary, used the Lecture Hall every evening, except Thursday and Sunday, for educational courses. Several courses were also scheduled for morning and afternoon hours.

A course on the programs of the Boston Symphony Orchestra was again offered by the Division of University Extension in collaboration with the Library. This was arranged by Richard G. Appel, of the Library staff, who was assisted by other musicians, notably Edward Burlingame Hill, Malcolm Lang, John P. Marshall, Daniel Gregory Mason, Alfred H. Meyer, Walter R. Spalding, and Alexander Tansman.

#### THE LIBRARY TRAINING CLASS

A Training Class, under the supervision of Mrs. Bertha V. Hartzell, was opened on October 17, 1927, for applicants de-

siring positions in the Library, and for a few members of the present staff who were especially adapted to training for all-round library work.

The subjects in the course for the first year included reference work, book selection, the principles of cataloguing and classification, work with children and library administration. Practical work in the different departments of the Library is a feature of the course, as are also visits to other libraries and to bookstores, and lectures by librarians of note.

Students already connected with the Library will take two years in training; new students giving full time to the work will complete their course in June, 1928.

Applicants from outside the Library are either high school or college graduates, who have passed the examination for admission. The class is limited in number, and candidates must be between the ages of eighteen and twenty-five. Preference is given to residents of Boston.

In view of the fact that no tuition is charged, it is expected that applicants, upon satisfactory completion of the course and subsequent appointment to a position, will remain in the service of the Library for a period of at least two years.

#### OTHER STAFF INSTRUCTION.

During the year the Supervisor of Work with Children has offered to assistants who came into the work with children without the requisite courses in children's literature the usual instruction, in amount averaging one period a week.

The Supervisor of Branches has given instruction to thirty-one branch library assistants in reference books and book selection. Marian A. McCarthy, assisted by Hilda M. Baker, has conducted a course in book mending and lettering.

The work of the Training Class in giving to the employees of the Library a better equipment for their duties, is being extended downward by means of the new examination for the Ungraded Service. Temporary employees, who have not yet graduated from high school, are now required at the end of two months of experience to pass an examination on the duties in which they

are engaged; the candidates are given instruction in the work of the various departments in preparation for this examination.

#### MECHANICAL AND OTHER REPAIRS.

The reconditioning of the Central Library Building and certain of the branch libraries has gone on apace during the year. The outstanding accomplishments were as follows:

About two thirds of the roof-tiles of the Central Library Building, of which there are some fifty thousand, have been repointed, and repairs have been made on the gutters, cresting, skylights, and certain sections of the inner condensation roof. The exterior façades and the walls of the inner court of the Central Building were repointed.

The catalogue enclosure in Bates Hall has been equipped with new tables, shelves, and cases. Rubber tile flooring has been placed in the Children's Room. A new electrical switchboard has been installed in the basement, while a good start has been made in the rewiring of the entire building. The installation of added air ducts in the Fine Arts Department has greatly improved its ventilation. During the summer a new brick sidewalk was laid on Dartmouth Street.

In addition to the changes already noted at the Dorchester and Brighton branches, the Dorchester, Hyde Park, and Andrew Square branches were repainted, as well as the Newspaper and Teachers' Rooms and the Fine Arts reading room in the Central Building.

#### RETIREMENTS.

During the year the following persons retired under the Boston Retirement Act: *South Boston Branch*: Mary J. Slattery, cleaner, (retired January 31, voluntary), entered service January 10, 1912; *West End Branch*: Rebecca Millmeister, second assistant, (retired June 30, disability), entered service May 12, 1899; *Catalogue Department*: Mary A. Tenney, cataloguer, (retired June 30, voluntary), entered service January 25, 1897; *Engineer and Janitor Department*: Bridget Healey, cleaner, (re-

tired June 30, voluntary), entered service March 17, 1906; *South End Branch*: Alice McEttrick, first assistant, (retired September 30, disability), entered service December 12, 1902.

#### CONCLUSION.

Upon the loyal service of the staff in the Central Library and Branches depends the satisfactory and effective operation of the entire Library Department. The Director earnestly solicits reports of dissatisfaction with the service of the Library or of failure to obtain information desired. It should be remembered that inquiries requiring special knowledge should be made to chiefs of departments, branch librarians or first assistants, most of whom have been long in the Library service and know its resources, rather than to minor assistants. Inquiries by telephone are welcome. If questions are asked which do not fall within the province of the department of the Central Library, or of the branch library, in which the inquiry is made, the inquirer will be directed to the proper source of information.

It is again a privilege to record my continued appreciation of the members of the Library staff in the regular day and evening service — in minor as well as in major positions — who have co-operated so admirably with their Director during the year. On the efficient performance of their duty depends the credit for the operation of the Department.

Respectfully submitted,

CHARLES F. D. BELDEN,

*Director*



## APPENDIX.

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TABLE OF CENTRAL AND BRANCH CIRCULATION.

	1922-23	1923-24	1924-25	1925*	1926	1927
Central Library	590,655	576,997	623,024	608,852	644,896	657,977
BRANCHES:						
Allston . . .	53,598	57,705	60,358	63,434	74,297	81,984
Andrew Square	33,413	51,991	68,196	68,772	89,662	92,926
Boylston Station	55,672	62,340	64,871	64,559	71,261	68,196
Brighton . . .	83,238	87,672	92,702	89,384	101,286	98,907
Charlestown . .	101,140	99,035	98,433	95,288	107,562	110,069
City Point . . .	38,381	43,277	47,441	50,108	51,154	54,232
Codman Square	103,810	113,529	114,950	119,758	145,001	156,559
Dorchester . . .	67,810	75,608	88,628	90,123	100,188	101,957
East Boston . .	120,993	125,968	128,771	125,820	138,691	140,379
Faneuil . . . .	24,944	27,004	30,443	31,560	43,782	50,212
Fellowes Athen.	79,125	71,673	76,007	84,765	85,151	89,479
Hyde Park . . .	82,498	89,716	95,334	93,582	98,147	107,168
Jamaica Plain . .	59,970	64,022	68,630	67,232	73,117	85,262
Jeffries Point . .	35,925	40,857	52,020	53,004	58,218	61,893
Lower Mills . . .	17,577	25,801	27,259	25,488	32,274	35,835
Mattapan . . . .	20,497	27,699	48,789	58,290	69,364	95,085
Memorial . . . .	108,665	122,159	136,981	135,913	147,263	171,034
Mount Bowdoin	83,376	98,961	107,679	112,320	125,907	129,487
Mount Pleasant	53,846	52,977	53,953	53,778	59,101	66,315
Neponset . . . .	33,263	40,353	41,466	39,479	43,349	48,331
North End . . . .	96,359	107,329	117,075	121,651	137,896	143,381
Orient Heights . .	34,240	30,580	40,605	45,395	58,913	55,625
Parker Hill . . .	49,459	44,081	37,038	39,860	43,719	45,862
Roslindale . . . .	82,597	89,336	94,888	93,154	105,074	113,150
Roxbury Crossing	55,911	57,869	67,143	58,634	62,462	77,770
South Boston . .	124,809	139,173	152,799	148,751	169,625	170,911
South End . . . .	99,543	111,682	117,845	112,578	118,315	116,226
Tyler Street . . .	39,973	42,270	37,321	37,436	43,421	39,868
Upham's Corner	120,257	109,731	95,975	100,288	126,010	152,140
West End . . . .	142,470	154,267	157,321	152,043	169,142	175,683
West Roxbury . .	74,970	81,199	88,249	88,482	104,889	111,754
Total . . . . .	2,768,984	2,922,861	3,132,194	3,129,781	3,499,137	3,705,657

\*For a year of eleven months.

The net gains and losses in circulation are presented, apart from the totals, in the following form:

	VOLUMES.
1922-23 gain over preceding year . . . . .	96,338
1923-24 gain over preceding year . . . . .	153,877
1924-25 gain over preceding year . . . . .	209,333
1925* loss from preceding year . . . . .	12,413
1926† gain over preceding year (of 11 months) . . . . .	369,356
1927 gain over preceding year . . . . .	306,520

### USE OF BOOKS.

#### CIRCULATION FROM CENTRAL BY MONTHS.

	HOME USE DIRECT.	HOME USE THROUGH BRANCH DEPT.	SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS THROUGH BRANCH DEPT.	TOTALS.
January, 1927 . . . . .	35,176	10,663	21,150	66,989
February " . . . . .	32,944	9,946	21,225	64,115
March " . . . . .	36,791	11,322	21,635	69,748
April " . . . . .	31,996	9,094	22,590	63,680
May " . . . . .	28,701	8,026	22,750	59,477
June " . . . . .	21,550	6,609	22,750	50,909
July " . . . . .	22,355	5,406	6,047	33,808
August " . . . . .	20,663	5,068	6,060	31,791
September " . . . . .	22,052	5,699	8,240	35,991
October " . . . . .	31,132	8,403	14,000	53,535
November " . . . . .	33,008	9,534	22,210	64,752
December " . . . . .	30,322	9,300	23,560	63,182
Totals . . . . .	346,690	99,070	212,217	657,977

#### DISTRIBUTION OF TOTAL CIRCULATION.

CENTRAL LIBRARY:	HOME USE.	SCHOOLS AND INSTITUTIONS.	TOTALS.
a. Direct . . . . .	346,690		
b. Through Branches			
1. Deposit Collection . . . . .	76,602		
2 General Collections . . . . .	22,468		
c. Schools and Institutions through Branch Department . . . . .		212,217	657,977
<hr/>			
BRANCHES:			
Allston . . . . .	81,984	. . . . .	81,984
Andrew Square . . . . .	92,926	. . . . .	92,926
Boylston Station . . . . .	68,196	. . . . .	68,196
Brighton . . . . .	75,289	23,618	98,907
Charlestown . . . . .	98,098	11,971	110,069
City Point . . . . .	54,232	. . . . .	54,232
Carried forward . . . . .	470,725	35,589	506,314

\*Eleven month period.

† Gain over an approximation of preceding twelve months 233,279.

<i>Brought forward</i>	.	.	.	.	470,725	35,589	506,314
Codman Square	.	.	.	.	144,847	11,712	156,559
Dorchester	.	.	.	.	84,430	17,527	101,957
East Boston	.	.	.	.	120,171	20,208	140,379
Faneuil	.	.	.	.	50,212	..	50,212
Fellowes Athenæum	.	.	.	.	71,434	18,045	89,479
Hyde Park	.	.	.	.	95,308	11,860	107,168
Jamaica Plain	.	.	.	.	72,977	12,285	85,262
Jeffries Point	.	.	.	.	61,893	....	61,893
Lower Mills	.	.	.	.	35,835	....	35,835
Mattapan	.	.	.	.	95,085	....	95,085
Memorial	.	.	.	.	167,356	3,678	171,034
Mount Bowdoin	.	.	.	.	124,300	5,187	129,487
Mount Pleasant	.	.	.	.	66,315	....	66,315
Neponset	.	.	.	.	48,331	....	48,331
North End	.	.	.	.	141,594	1,787	143,381
Orient Heights	.	.	.	.	55,625	....	55,625
Parker Hill	.	.	.	.	45,862	....	45,862
Roslindale	.	.	.	.	102,781	10,369	113,150
Roxbury Crossing	.	.	.	.	77,770	....	77,770
South Boston	.	.	.	.	144,820	26,091	170,911
South End	.	.	.	.	99,230	16,996	116,226
Tyler Street	.	.	.	.	39,868	....	39,868
Upham's Corner	.	.	.	.	151,402	738	152,140
West End	.	.	.	.	150,794	24,889	175,683
West Roxbury	.	.	.	.	91,776	19,978	111,754
					2,810,741	236,939	3,047,680

These figures are condensed into the following:

*Books Lent for Home Use, including Circulation through  
Schools and Institutions.*

From Central Library (including Central Library books issued through the Branches)	657,977
From Branches (excluding books received from Central Library)	3,047,680
Total	3,705,657

COMPARATIVE.	1926.	1927.
Central Library circulation (excluding schools and institutions):		
Direct home use	340,585	346,690
Through Branches	106,456	99,070
	447,041	445,760
Branch Libraries circulation (ex- cluding schools and institutions):	2,612,108	2,810,741
Schools and institutions circulation (in- cluding books from Central through the Branch system)	439,988	447,156
	3,499,137	3,705,657

Under the inter-library loan system with other libraries the following use of books for the purpose of serious research is shown for two successive years:

	1926.	1927.
Volumes lent from this Library to other libraries in Massachusetts	1,580	1,723
Lent to libraries outside of Massachusetts . . . . .	250	264
Totals . . . . .	1,830	1,987
Applications refused:		
From libraries in Massachusetts . . . . .	475	478
From libraries outside of Massachusetts . . . . .	117	104
Totals . . . . .	592	582
Borrowed from other libraries for use here . . . . .	24	24

The classified direct circulation of the branches was as follows, for two successive years:

	1926		1927	
	VOLUMES.	PERCENTAGE.	VOLUMES.	PERCENTAGE.
Fiction for adults . . . . .	825,834	32	901,688	32
Non-fiction for adults . . . . .	256,018	10	273,932	10
Juvenile fiction . . . . .	1,022,430	39	1,107,625	39
Juvenile non-fiction . . . . .	507,826	19	527,496	19

At the Central Library the classified direct circulation shows the following percentages:

	1926.	1927.
	PERCENTAGE.	PERCENTAGE.
Fiction . . . . .	48.5	47.7
Non-fiction . . . . .	51.5	52.3

BOOK ACCESSIONS.

BOOKS ACQUIRED BY PURCHASE.

	1926.	1927.
For the Central Library:		
From City appropriation . . . . .	9,474	9,870
From trust funds income . . . . .	3,237	2,688
	12,711	12,558
For branches:		
From City appropriation . . . . .	67,435	66,424
From trust funds income . . . . .	....	3,289
	67,435	69,713
Totals . . . . .	80,146	82,271

The following statement includes the accessions by purchase combined with books received by gift or otherwise:

	CENTRAL.	BRANCHES.	TOTAL VOLUMES.
Accessions by purchase . . . . .	12,558	69,713	82,271
Accessions by gift . . . . .	11,437	1,060	12,497
Accessions by Statistical Department . . . . .	80	....	80
Accessions by exchange . . . . .	144	....	144
Accessions by periodicals bound . . . . .	1,622	70	1,732
Accessions by newspapers bound . . . . .	116	....	116
Accessions by serials bound . . . . .	1,647	....	1,647
<b>Totals . . . . .</b>	<b>27,644</b>	<b>70,843</b>	<b>98,487</b>

#### THE CATALOGUE.

	1926		1927	
	VOLS. AND PARTS.	TITLES.	VOLS. AND PARTS.	TITLES.
Catalogued (new):				
Central Library Catalogue . . . . .	23,496	14,544	25,811	15,932
Serials . . . . .	5,475	....	6,697	....
Branches . . . . .	57,473	50,246	67,602	57,543
Recatalogued . . . . .	17,819	9,358	15,337	8,261
<b>Totals . . . . .</b>	<b>104,263</b>	<b>74,148</b>	<b>115,447</b>	<b>81,736</b>

#### SHELF DEPARTMENT.

The number of volumes shelved and thus made available for public use, taken from the report of the Shelf Department, is:

Placed on the Central Library shelves during the year:

General collection, new books(including continuations) . . . . .	24,553
Special collections, new books and transfers . . . . .	2,081
Books reported lost or missing in previous years, but now found, transfers from branches, etc. . . . .	1,904
	<b>28,538</b>

Removed from Central Library shelves during the year:

Books reported lost or missing, condemned copies not yet replaced, transfers, etc. . . . .	12,304
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Net gain at Central Library . . . . . 16,234

Net gain at branches . . . . . 13,816

Net gain, entire library system . . . . . 30,050

The total number of volumes available for public use at the end of each year since the formation of the Library is shown in the following statement:

1852-53 . . . . .	9,688	1855-56 . . . . .	28,080
1853-54 . . . . .	16,221	1856-57 . . . . .	34,896
1854-55 . . . . .	22,617	1857-58 . . . . .	70,851

1858-59 . . . . .	78,043	1893 . . . . .	597,152
1859-60 . . . . .	85,031	1894 . . . . .	610,375
1860-61 . . . . .	97,386	1895 . . . . .	628,297
1861-62 . . . . .	105,034	1896-97 . . . . .	663,763
1862-63 . . . . .	110,563	1897-98 . . . . .	698,888
1863-64 . . . . .	116,934	1898-99 . . . . .	716,050
1864-65 . . . . .	123,016	1899-1900 . . . . .	746,383
1865-66 . . . . .	130,678	1900-01 . . . . .	781,377
1866-67 . . . . .	136,080	1901-02 . . . . .	812,264
1867-68 . . . . .	144,092	1902-03 . . . . .	835,904
1868-69 . . . . .	152,796	1903-04 . . . . .	848,884
1869-70 . . . . .	160,573	1904-05 . . . . .	871,050
1870-71 . . . . .	179,250	1905-06 . . . . .	878,933
1871-72 . . . . .	192,958	1906-07 . . . . .	903,349
1872-73 . . . . .	209,456	1907-08 . . . . .	922,348
1873-74 . . . . .	260,550	1908-09 . . . . .	941,024
1874-75 . . . . .	276,918	1909-10 . . . . .	961,522
1875-76 . . . . .	297,873	1910-11 . . . . .	987,268
1876-77 . . . . .	321,010	1911-12 . . . . .	1,006,717
1877-78 . . . . .	345,734	1912-13 . . . . .	1,049,011
1878-79 . . . . .	360,963	1913-14 . . . . .	1,067,103
1879-80 . . . . .	377,225	1914-15 . . . . .	1,098,702
1880-81 . . . . .	390,982	1915-16 . . . . .	1,121,747
1881-82 . . . . .	404,221	1916-17 . . . . .	1,139,682
1882-83 . . . . .	422,116	1917-18 . . . . .	1,157,326
1883-84 . . . . .	438,594	1918-19 . . . . .	1,173,695
1884-85 . . . . .	453,947	1919-20 . . . . .	1,197,498
1885 . . . . .	460,993	1920-21 . . . . .	1,224,510
1886 . . . . .	479,421	1921-22 . . . . .	1,258,211
1887 . . . . .	492,956	1922-23 . . . . .	1,284,094
1888 . . . . .	505,872	1923-24 . . . . .	1,308,041
1889 . . . . .	520,508	1924-25 . . . . .	1,333,264
1890 . . . . .	536,027	1925 . . . . .	1,363,515
1891 . . . . .	556,283	1926 . . . . .	1,388,439
1892 . . . . .	576,237	1927 . . . . .	1,418,489
Volumes in entire library system . . . . .			1,418,489
Volumes in the branches . . . . .			391,125

### These volumes are located as follows:

Central Library . . . . .	1,027,364	Mattapan . . . . .	6,663
Allston . . . . .	6,675	Memorial . . . . .	12,961
Andrew Square . . . . .	6,274	Mount Bowdoin . . . . .	10,090
Boylston Station . . . . .	5,700	Mount Pleasant . . . . .	6,379
Brighton . . . . .	19,086	Neponset . . . . .	5,127
Charlestown . . . . .	15,133	North End . . . . .	11,959
City Point . . . . .	8,433	Orient Heights . . . . .	5,413
Codman Square . . . . .	12,328	Parker Hill . . . . .	5,410
Dorchester . . . . .	12,957	Roslindale . . . . .	12,182
East Boston . . . . .	21,378	Roxbury Crossing . . . . .	7,486
Faneuil . . . . .	6,758	South Boston . . . . .	20,589
Fellowes Athenæum . . . . .	37,043	South End . . . . .	14,678
Hyde Park . . . . .	35,898	Tyler Street . . . . .	5,966
Jamaica Plain . . . . .	17,555	Upham's Corner . . . . .	12,846
Jeffries Point . . . . .	4,875	West End . . . . .	22,061
Lower Mills . . . . .	3,949	West Roxbury . . . . .	17,273

## THE BINDERY.

	1926	1927
Number of volumes bound in various styles . . . . .	66,946	68,313
Magazines stitched . . . . .	187	201
Volumes repaired . . . . .	2,176	2,086
Volumes guarded . . . . .	1,612	1,684
Maps mounted . . . . .	90	41
Photographs and engravings, etc. mounted . . . . .	4,908	3,044
Library publications folded, stitched and trimmed . . . . .	64,573	68,997

## THE PRINTING DEPARTMENT.

	1926	1927
Requisitions received and filled . . . . .	237	203
Card Catalogue (Central Library):		
Titles (Printing Department count) . . . . .	5,952	4,050
Cards finished (exclusive of extras) . . . . .	66,169	65,417
Card Catalogue (Branches):		
Titles (Printing Department count) . . . . .	760	480
Cards finished (exclusive of extras) . . . . .	33,583	32,160
Signs . . . . .	735	283
Blank forms (numbered series) . . . . .	3,402,038	3,127,019
Forms, circulars, and sundries (outside numbered series) . . . . .	69,370	46,317
Catalogues, pamphlets, and bibliographical programs . . . . .	55,490	43,695

A SUMMARY OF THE PAST TWENTY-FIVE YEARS.

BOOKS IN SYSTEM	1901-02	1906-07	1911-12	1916-17	1922-23	1927
	Central	Central	Central	Central	Central	Central
Branches	635,501	706,909	782,075	857,455	958,931	1,027,364
	177,123	196,440	224,642	282,227	325,163	391,125
Total	812,624	903,349	1,006,717	1,139,682	1,284,094	1,418,489
ACCESSIONS						
Purchase	23,178	23,494	26,653	31,222	68,074	82,271
Gift, etc.	12,657	13,958	10,233	13,265	10,235	16,216
Total	35,835	37,452	36,886	44,487	78,309	98,487
[6] HOME USE CIRCULATION						
BOOK EXPENDITURE	1,483,513	1,461,403	1,612,270	2,050,238	2,768,984	3,705,657
City funds	\$36,197	\$35,803	\$25,902	\$33,561	\$101,032	\$127,428
Trust funds	13,035	13,157	22,926	12,820	21,883	27,413
Total	\$49,232	\$48,960	\$48,828	\$46,381	\$122,915	\$154,841
BOOKS CATALOGUED						
Volumes and Parts	59,745	59,099	58,724	79,215	91,723	115,447
Titles	33,988	34,113	38,623	41,463	62,846	81,736
VOLUMES BOUND						
REGISTRATION	16,120	31,886	42,398	41,863	48,544	68,313
TRUST FUNDS	72,902	76,782	89,162	104,325	113,883	141,401
TRUST FUNDS INCOME	\$283,742	\$422,224	\$441,350	\$538,507	\$678,219	\$755,082
CITY APPROPRIATION	\$11,861	\$15,948	\$17,590	\$20,842	\$24,223	\$27,504
	\$302,000	\$324,550	\$355,200	\$409,080	\$741,993	\$1,104,569



## THE LECTURES OF 1927-1928.

All lectures, except those marked with an asterisk (\*) were illustrated with lantern slides.

1927

- |      |     |  |
|------|-----|--|
| Oct. | 6.  | The American Indian Past and Present. Dr. Warren K. Moorehead.   |
| Oct. | 9.  | *Paul Claudel, Ambassador and Littérateur. William M. Stinson, S. J.   |
| Oct. | 9.  | *Concert. Gordon String Quartet of Chicago. (Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge series.)   |
| Oct. | 10. | *Prof. E. Charlton Black Memorial. Address by Rt. Rev. William F. Anderson, D. D. In Memoriam: poem by Laura Simmonds. A Group of Songs, rendered by Mrs. Alice Wentworth MacGregor, and Raymond Coon, Pianist. (Ruskin Club.) |
| Oct. | 13. | Today in the Lands of Yesterday: Changing Scenes in India, China and Japan. Walter W. Allerton.  |
| Oct. | 16. | On the Sea of Noon: Glimpses of Borneo, Java, Ceylon, and the Philippines. John C. Bowker, M. D.   |
| Oct. | 16. | *Concert. Boston Chamber Music Trio.   |
| Oct. | 20. | Our National Parks. Henry Warren Poor, A. M. (Under the auspices of the National Park Service, Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C.)  |
| Oct. | 23. | *Folk Songs of the British Isles, France and the South. Claramond Thompson, (in costume.)  |
| Oct. | 23. | *Concert. Tokar String Quartet.  |
| Oct. | 24. | The Human Side of Egyptian Sculpture. Dows Dunham, A. M. (Ruskin Club.)  |
| Oct. | 27. | Sharing a Hobby: Studies in Color Photography. Mr. and Mrs. Arthur M. Keith.   |
| Oct. | 30. | *Our Country's Grandmother. Mrs. Christine von K. Wade.  |
| Oct. | 30. | Boston 75 Years Ago. - Walter K. Watkins.  |
| Nov. | 3.  | Famous Actors, Old and New, with Imitations of their Acting. Francis Henry Wade, M. D., Ph. D.   |
| Nov. | 6.  | *Folk Music of Many Lands. (Under the auspices of the International Institute, Y.W.C.A.)   |
| Nov. | 6.  | *Intimate Piano Concert, with interpretative talk. Margaret Anderton, Pianist.   |
| Nov. | 10. | *The Trend of Contemporary Drama. Clayton Hamilton.  |
| Nov. | 10. | Forest and Trails in the White Mountains. Philip W. Ayres, (Field and Forest Club Course.)   |
| Nov. | 13. | *Dramatizing the Novel. Frank W. C. Hersey, A.M. (Drama League Course.)  |

- Nov. 13. \*Concert. Persinger String Quartet of Santa Barbara.  
(Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge series.)
- Nov. 14. \*Dante. Lilian Whiting. (Ruskin Club.)
- Nov. 15. The Riffs of Morocco: Their Customs and Lore. C. S.  
Coon. (Under the auspices of the Boston Branch of  
the American Folk Lore Society.)
- Nov. 17. Abraham Lincoln. Guy Richardson.
- Nov. 20. English Music Alive Again. Henry Gideon, A.M., and  
assistants. Musical and lantern illustrations.
- Nov. 20. \*Folk Music of Many Lands. (Under the auspices of the  
International Institute, Y.W.C.A.)
- Nov. 26. \*The Truth about Kipling's India. Dhan Gopal Mukerji.
- Nov. 27. \*America's Story in Song. Catherine Smith. Musical il-  
lustrations.
- Nov. 27. \*Concert. Durrell String Quartet.
- Nov. 28. A Trip Around the Mediterranean. Harriet Everard  
Johnson, S.T.B. (Ruskin Club.)
- Dec. 1. Across Czechoslovakia, the Heart of Europe. C. F.  
Deerbon.
- Dec. 4. \*Concert. Orchestra of the Lincoln House Association.  
Jacques Hoffmann, Conductor.
- Dec. 4. Some Early Playhouses of London. Sarah E. Palmer,  
M. D.
- Dec. 8. Through Six National Parks with the Field and Forest  
Club in 1927. Rev. Charles W. Casson. (Field and  
Forest Club Course.)
- Dec. 11. \*The Problem Play. Robert E. Rogers, A. M. (Drama  
League Course.)
- Dec. 11. \*Musical Program. Mrs. M. H. Gulesian, Composer-  
Pianist, and Mme Olga Avierino, Soprano.
- Dec. 12. Traveller's Luck in Europe. Mrs. Charles B. Hall.  
(Ruskin Club.)
- Dec. 15. The Nativity in Stereopticon Slides, Music, and Tableaux:  
a Synthesis of Music, Color, Picture and Action.  
H. Augustine Smith, assisted by the Choral Art Society  
of the School of Religious Education of Boston Uni-  
versity and by soloists.
- Dec. 18. When Dickens read the Christmas Carol in Boston on  
Christmas Eve. Edward F. Payne, President, Boston  
Branch of the Dickens Fellowship.
- Dec. 18. \*Concert. Musical Art String Quartet of New York.  
(Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge series.)
- Dec. 19. \*A Christmas Message. Mrs. Minnie Meserve Soule.  
Music by Mrs. Alice Wentworth MacGregor. (Ruskin  
Club.)

- Dec. 22. \*Song and Satire of the Eighteenth Century. Lecture-recital. Emma Marshall Denkinger, Ph. D., and Esther M. Wood, Soprano.
- Dec. 29. The Madonna in Italian Art. Mrs. William Dana Orcutt.
- 1928
- Jan. 5. Long Wharf and the Old Boston Waterfront; History and Reminiscences. Gilbert R. Payson.
- Jan. 8. \*Symbolism in Modern Drama. Robert E. Rogers, A. M. (Drama League Course.)
- Jan. 8. \*Inter-settlement Concert by pupils from the Music School Settlements.
- Jan. 9. \*The Making of a Ruskin Collection. Charles E. Goodspeed. (Ruskin Club.)
- Jan. 12. The Lure of New England. Percy A. Brigham. (Field and Forest Club Course.)
- Jan. 14. Northern Italy and the Dolomites. Rev. A. E. Worman.
- Jan. 15. \*Legends and Folk Songs of Finland. Aino Saari. Musical illustrations.
- Jan. 15. \*Song Recital. Elsie Winsor Bird, Soprano.
- Jan. 19. The Life and Art of Edgar Allan Poe. Joseph Lorraine.
- Jan. 19. Flemish and Dutch Art: a comparison and valuation. Adriaan M. DeGroot.
- Jan. 22. \*Concert. Choral Society of the Massachusetts State Federation of Women's Clubs.
- Jan. 22. \*Modern Piano Music of the French, Russian and English Schools. Elizabeth Siedoff. Lecture-piano recital.
- Jan. 23. \*The Witch of Salem: Cadman's New American Opera. Grace May Statsman. Musical illustrations. (Ruskin Club.)
- Jan. 26. Evangeline Country at Apple-blossom Time. Edwin A. Freeman.
- Jan. 29. \*The Educational Value of Play Producing in Schools. Marie Ware Laughton, Director, The Out-Door Players.
- Jan. 29. \*Concert. Hart House String Quartet of Toronto. (Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge series.)
- Feb. 2. Nature's Mysteries. Dan McCowan. (Contributed by the Bureau of Commercial Economics, Washington, D. C.)
- Feb. 5. \*Russian Music. Dr. John P. Marshall.
- Feb. 5. \*Concert. The Players of Concerted Music.
- Feb. 9. The English Lake Country and its Poets. Olive C. Grigor. (Field and Forest Club Course.)
- Feb. 12. \*Our Social Comedies. Mrs. Carl L. Schrader, President, Drama League of Boston. (Drama League Course.)

- Feb. 12. \*Concert. Burgin and Durrell String Quartets of Boston.  
(Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge series.)
- Feb. 13. \*The Observance of John Ruskin's Birthday, February 8,  
1818. (Ruskin Club.)
- Feb. 16. Unknown Newfoundland. Robert H. Tait. (Contributed  
by the Bureau of Commercial Economics, Washington,  
D. C.)
- Feb. 19. \*The Odes of the Roman Poet Horace, in musical settings,  
ancient and modern. W. B. McDaniel, II, A. M.
- Feb. 19. \*Intersettlement Concert by Pupils from the Music School  
Settlements.
- Feb. 23. Gainsborough, Painter of Beautiful Women, 1727-1927.  
Martha A. S. Shannon.
- Feb. 26. \*Authors and Wives, Face to Face. John E. Pember.
- Feb. 26. \*Concert. Gertrude Ehrhart, soprano, Carmela Ippolito,  
violin, and Nicolas Slonimsky, piano.
- Feb. 27. \*The Purpose of Literature. Prof. Earl Augustus Aldrich.  
(Ruskin Club.)
- Mar. 1. Picturesque Germany. John G. Bucher. (Contributed  
by the Bureau of Commercial Economics, Washington,  
D. C.)
- Mar. 4. \*Negro Writers and Composers. Recital. Dorothy  
Richardson, contralto, Eleanor Trent Wallace, reader,  
and Dorothy Wood, accompanist.
- Mar. 4. \*Concert. Boston Civic Symphony Orchestra. Joseph F.  
Wagner, Conductor.
- Mar. 8. Mountain and Woodland Trails. Frank H. Sprague.  
(Field and Forest Club Course.)
- Mar. 11. Folk Plays: the Foundation of Modern American Drama.  
Albert Hatton Gilmer, A.M. (Drama League Course.)
- Mar. 11. \*Concert. New York String Quartet. (Elizabeth Sprague  
Coolidge series.)
- Mar. 12. \*Ruskin's Country. Mrs. Herbert J. Gurney. (Ruskin  
Club.)
- Mar. 15. \*Varied Program. The Strolling Players. Helene Martha  
Boll, Director.
- Mar. 18. \*Concert. Orchestra of the Lincoln House Association.  
Jacques Hoffmann, Conductor.
- Mar. 18. \*Intersettlement Concert by Pupils from the Music School  
Settlements.
- Mar. 22. Pilgrim Land and Old New England Whaling. Rev.  
George T. Plummer.
- Mar. 25. \*Music of the Church, the Home, and the Nation. Mme  
Beale Morey. Vocal and Instrumental illustrations.

- Mar. 26. The Beauties of Switzerland. Mrs. Arthur Dudley Ropes.  
(Ruskin Club.)
- Mar. 29. General Allenby's Palestine Campaign. Lieut. Col. Girard  
L. McEntee.
- Apr. 1. \*The Shortest Trail to Bird Acquaintance, by Way of Song  
and Call. Lester W. Smith.
- Apr. 1. \*Concert. The Pierian Sodality Orchestra of Harvard  
University. Nicolas Slonimsky, Conductor.
- Apr. 5. Spain, the Land of History and Romance. Ellen E. Page.
- Apr. 8. \*Reminiscences of Famous Shakesperian Actors. Helen  
Adelaide Shaw.
- Apr. 8. \*Concert. Lenox String Quartet of New York. (Elizabeth  
Sprague Coolidge series.)
- Apr. 9. A New Experiment in Balancing Education. Arthur W.  
Gilbert, Ph. D. Mlle Berthe Hébert, soloist. (Ruskin  
Club.)
- Apr. 12. Robert Burns. Charles S. Olcott.
- Apr. 1. \*Piano Recital for Young People. Persis Cox.
- Apr. 15. \*Platform arrangement of Cyrano de Bergerac, by Edmond  
Rostand. Edward Abner Thompson, A. M.
- Apr. 15. \*Intersetlement Concert by Pupils from the Music School  
Settlements.
- Apr. 22. \*The Modern Church Music Renaissance. Carl F. Pfat-  
teicher, Th. D. Musical illustrations.
- Apr. 23. \*Goya. Ellen E. Page. (Ruskin Club.)
- Apr. 26. From London to Land's End. Mrs. Arthur Dudley Ropes.
- Apr. 29. \*Concert. Leonora Choral Society of Bradford Academy.  
Frederick Johnson, Conductor.
- May 3. Home Life in Japan. Marguerite Rand.
- May 6. The New Art of Mobile Color. G. A. Shook. Color  
Organ and Musical illustrations.
- May 6. \*Concert. Rosé String Quartet of Vienna. (Under the  
auspices of the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.,  
Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge Foundation.)

PUBLIC EXHIBITIONS. 1927.

In Exhibition Room.

Installation  
date

- Jan. 14. Paintings and etchings by Anthony Thieme.
- Feb. 5. American Book Illustration. First annual exhibition, by  
American Institute of Graphic Arts.
- Feb. 10. Color prints of the works of Jan Vermeer van Delft, from  
collections in the Division of Fine Arts.

- Feb. 19. Prints of George Washington.
- Feb. 26. Centenary exhibition of material relating to Ludwig von Beethoven.
- Mar. 7. Historic German buildings, to accompany Beethoven material.
- Mar. 19. Original designs entered in the "House Beautiful" Cover Design Competition.
- Mar. 21. Memorial exhibition of rare manuscripts and editions of the work of Sir Isaac Newton, 1642-1727.
- Apr. 2. Fine Printing. Third annual exhibition by The American Institute of Graphic Arts.
- Apr. 4. "The Graphic Process": a series of actual prints, edited by Louis A. Holman — recently acquired by the Library.
- Apr. 18. "Workers Education", in connection with the 5th annual convention of the Workers Education Bureau of America; including original oil paintings by Gerrit A. Beneker.
- Apr. 30. Selected work from Lowthorpe School of Landscape Architecture for Women.
- May 2. "Better Homes Week": material loaned by the Small House Service Bureau.
- May 16. Resources in the Library for study and research in the Fine Arts.
- May 16. "Creative Expression in Design and Drawing"; work by pupils in the Boston Public Schools. (Held in Sargent Corridor.)
- June 1. Historical exhibition commemorating the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Boston Public Library; material from various departments of the Library.
- Oct. 8. Photographic enlargements by William E. Merrill.
- Oct. 15. "Fifty Books of the Year" and "Printing for Commerce", lent by the American Institute of Graphic Arts.
- Nov. 5. "Old World Handicraft", lent by the International Institute of the Young Women's Christian Association.
- Dec. 5. "Sculpture in Soap", lent by the Procter & Gamble Company.
- Dec. 17. Color prints of Christmas subjects, from the Seeman and Medici collections.

## IN BARTON-TICKNOR ROOM.

January	Books illustrating the historical development of Children's literature.
January	"Masterpieces of Modern Printing."
April	Examples of the work of the Kelmscott Press.
May	Orderly books of the Revolutionary War, including the recent accession, "Peter Scull's Orderly Book."
October	Pictographs of the Paleolithic and Neolithic eras.
December	Editions of Newton's "Principia," including first editions recently acquired by the Library.

## SELECTED LIST OF GIFTS AND GIVERS.

- Antin, Mary, Great Barrington, Massachusetts. Original manuscript of "The Promised Land" by Mary Antin. For the Artz Collection.
- Bates, Katherine Lee, Wellesley. "The Pilgrim Ship," by Katherine Lee Bates. Inscribed copy for the Artz Collection.
- Beethoven Association, The, New York City. Facsimile reproduction of the original manuscript of Beethoven's "Sonata Appassionata" which belongs to the Library of the Paris Conservatory of Music. No. 130 of 500 copies printed for the Beethoven Association of New York.
- Beneker, Gerrit A., West Newton. Colored reproductions of paintings by Gerrit A. Beneker, with descriptive text.
- Connolly, Rt. Rev. Msgr. Arthur T. Fourteen volumes of "Acta Sanctæ Sedis" 1897 to 1908 inclusive, and nineteen volumes of "Acta Apostolicæ Sedis. Commentarium Officiale" 1909-1927. Msgr. Connolly's gift completes and continues the Library set given by the late Archbishop Williams in 1897.
- Conway, Katherine E., Estate of, through James J. Conway, Executor. A collection of 88 volumes from Miss Conway's private library. Many of these are inscribed copies from the authors who were her personal friends and include names of well-known contemporary writers.
- Coolidge, Mrs. Elizabeth S., of Washington. A set in facsimile of the works of Claudio Monteverdi, printed in Venice in 1607 and reprinted in Asolo 1926 in a limited edition of 10 volumes. For the Music Division.
- Curtis, Miss Mary, Hamilton, Massachusetts. 660 photographs of architecture, painting and sculpture in European galleries.
- Deering, Charles, Estate of, Chicago. Tamarit. Some notes concerning this historical and legendary Catalonian town. Privately printed. In English and Spanish. Folio. In  $\frac{3}{4}$  morocco binding.
- Fleischner, Otto. Il Libro della bella donna. Composto da Messer Federico Luigini da Vdine. Venetio, 1554. For the Galatea Collection.

Forbes, Mrs. J. Malcolm, Milton. (Through the Woodrow Wilson Foundation). Selected literary and political papers of Woodrow Wilson. New York., 1925. Five sets of three volumes each.

Harper, Henry H. The story of a Nephrectomy. A true history of a semi-tragic episode, by Henry H. Harper. Norwood, 1927.

Hersey, Miss Heloise E. Eighty-two volumes of miscellaneous works and 47 numbers of the Anglo-Catholic Congress Books. (London, 1923.)

Hispanic Society of America, The President and Trustees of, New York City. A complete set of the Publications of the Society in 200 volumes. A noteworthy addition to the Ticknor Collection of Spanish and Portuguese books.

Loring, Miss Katharine P., Prides Crossing. At Burnside. Verses by two friends. (George E. Woodberry and Louisa Putnam Loring) "Privately printed by D. B. Updike, The Merrymount Press, Boston, in January 1927." For the Artz Collection.

McGreevy, Michael T. 182 photographs of base-ball players covering a period of fifty years, collected by Mr. McGreevy.

"These pictures have accumulated through the past fifty years and represent in photographic form the evolution of our great national game." From letter of giver.

Mackay, Clarence H., New York City. The Clarence H. Mackay Collection. Italian Schools. By Wilhelm R. Valentiner, New York. 1926. In Morocco binding. Large folio. (No. 60 of 100 copies printed for private distribution.)

Phillips, Miss Mary E. Edgar Allan Poe the Man. By Mary E. Phillips. With a foreword by James H. Whitty. Chicago, 1926, 2 vols. (Inscribed to Mr. C. F. D. Belden and members of the Staff.)

Sargent, Miss Emily and Mrs. Francis Ormond, London. (Through Mr. Thomas A. Fox.) Thirty-five volumes from the London Studio of John Singer Sargent. These books were obviously used by Mr. Sargent in connection with the decorations in the Library.

Schirner, G., Inc., New York City. Seventy-one pieces of music for the Allen A. Brown Library.

Sohier, William D. 294 volumes of miscellaneous literature including poetry, history, Civil War, travel, guide books, etc.

Stinson, Rev. William M., S. J. Boston College in the World War. 1917-18. Chestnut Hill. (1927.)

During the year the Columbia Phonograph Company of New York and the Victor Talking Machine Company of Camden, N. J., have continued to enrich the Library collection to the extent of 117 and 63 records respectively. These records, added to the collection of the Library, are of great use in illustrating the weekly lectures on the Symphony Concerts.



## OFFICIALS OF THE LIBRARY.

Director,	Charles F. D. Belden.
Reference Librarian,	Frank H. Chase.
Executive Secretary,	Della Jean Deery.
Auditor,	Helen Schubarth.

Bates Hall Centre Desk, Newspaper and Patent Department: Pierce E. Buckley, Chief.

Newspaper Division, Frederic Serex, Assistant in Charge.

Patent Division, William J. Ennis, Assistant in Charge.

Bindery Department: James W. Kenney, Chief.

Branch Department: Edith Guerrier, Supervisor of Branches.\*

Central Branch Issue Division, Alice V. Stevens, Assistant in Charge.

Branch Binding Division, Marian A. McCarthy, Assistant in Charge.

Shipping Division, Robert F. Dixon, Assistant in Charge.

Catalogue Department: Samuel A. Chevalier, Chief.

Card Division, T. Francis Brennan, Assistant in Charge.

Shelf Division, Michael McCarthy, Chief Classifier, in Charge.

Children's Department: Alice M. Jordan, Supervisor of Work with Children.

Children's Librarian, Central Library, Mary C. Toy.

Editor: Zoltán Haraszti.

Engineer and Janitor Department: William F. Quinn, Supt. of Buildings.

Genealogy Division: Agnes C. Doyle, Assistant in Charge.

Information Office: John H. Reardon, Assistant in Charge.

Issue Department: Frank C. Blaisdell, Chief.

Library Training Class: Bertha V. Hartzell, Supervisor.

Ordering Department: Theodosia E. Macurdy, Chief.

Periodical Room: Francis J. Hannigan, Assistant in Charge.

Printing Department. Francis Watts Lee, Chief.

Registration Department: A. Frances Rogers, Chief.

Special Libraries Department: —————, Chief.

Bafton-Ticknor Division, Harriet Swift, Assistant in Charge.

Music Division, Richard G. Appel, Assistant in Charge.

Technology Division, George S. Maynard, Assistant in Charge.

Statistical Department: Horace L. Wheeler, Chief.

Stock Room: Timothy J. Mackin, Custodian.

Branch Librarians:

Allston, Katherine F. Muldoon.

Andrew Square, Elizabeth H. McShane.

Boylston Station, Pearl B. Smart.

Brighton, Katrina M. Sather.

Charlestown, Katherine S. Rogan.

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\* For Branch Librarians, see below.

City Point, Alice L. Murphy.  
 Codman Square, Elizabeth P. Ross.  
 Dorchester, Marion C. Kingman.  
 East Boston, Laura M. Cross.  
 Faneuil, Gertrude L. Connell.  
 Fellowes Athenæum, Mary E. Ames.  
 Hyde Park, Grace L. Murray.  
 Jamaica Plain, Katie F. Albert.  
 Jeffries Point, Margaret A. Calnan.  
 Lower Mills, Isabel E. Wetherald.  
 Mattapan, Ada Aserkoff.  
 Memorial, Beatrice M. Flanagan.  
 Mount Bowdoin, Theodora B. Scoff.  
 Mount Pleasant, Margaret H. Reid.  
 Neponset, Ellen C. McShane.  
 North End, Mary F. Curley. "  
 Orient Heights, Catherine F. Flannery.  
 Parker Hill, Mary M. Sullivan.  
 Roslindale, Annie M. Donovan.  
 Roxbury Crossing, Edith R. Nickerson.  
 South Boston, M. Florence Cufflin.  
 South End, Margaret A. Sheridan.  
 Tyler Street, Lois Clark.  
 Upham's Corner, Beatrice C. Maguire.  
 West End, Fanny Goldstein.  
 West Roxbury, Carrie L. Morse.

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